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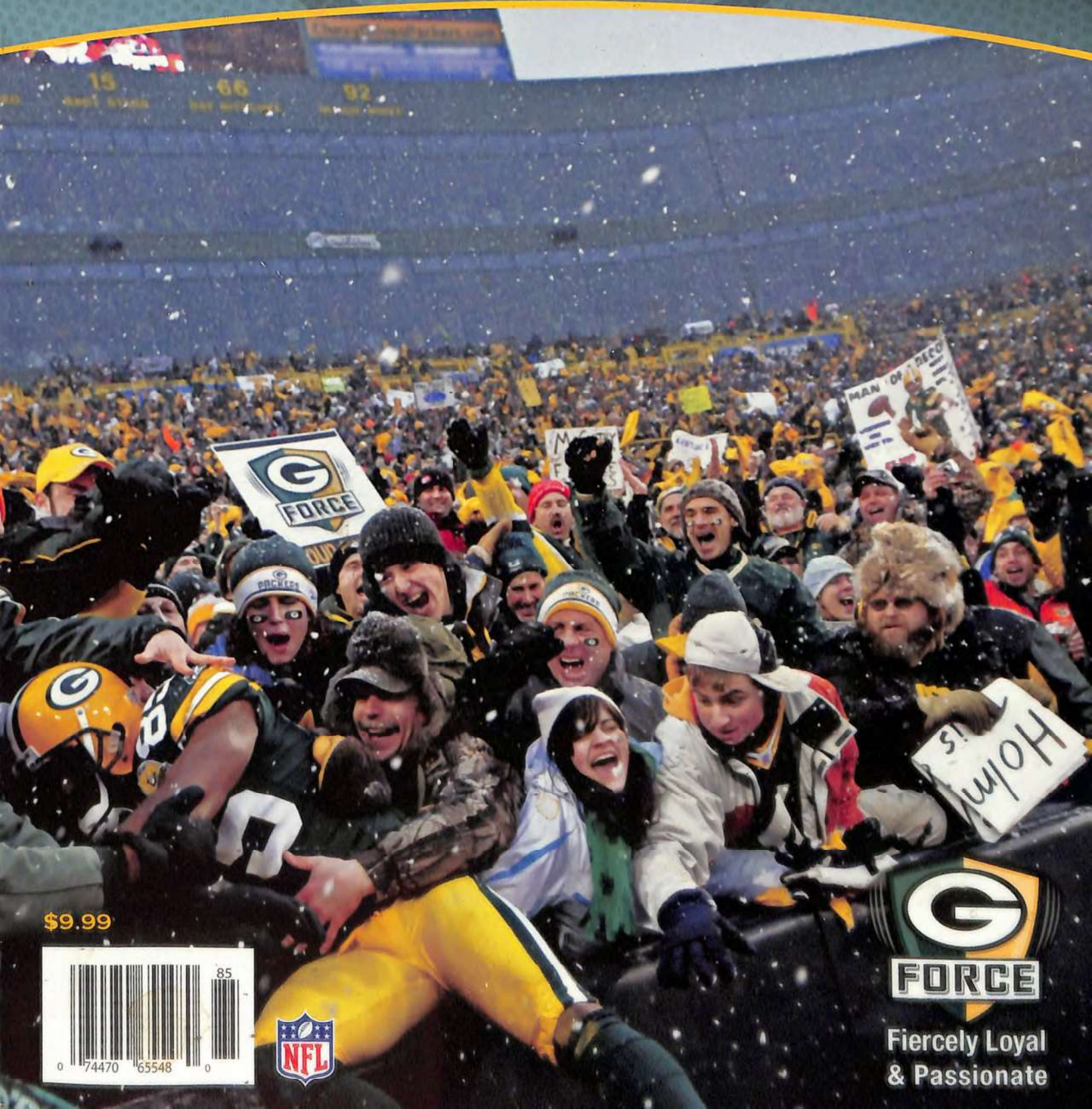
Official 2008 Yearbook

GREEN BAY

PACKERS



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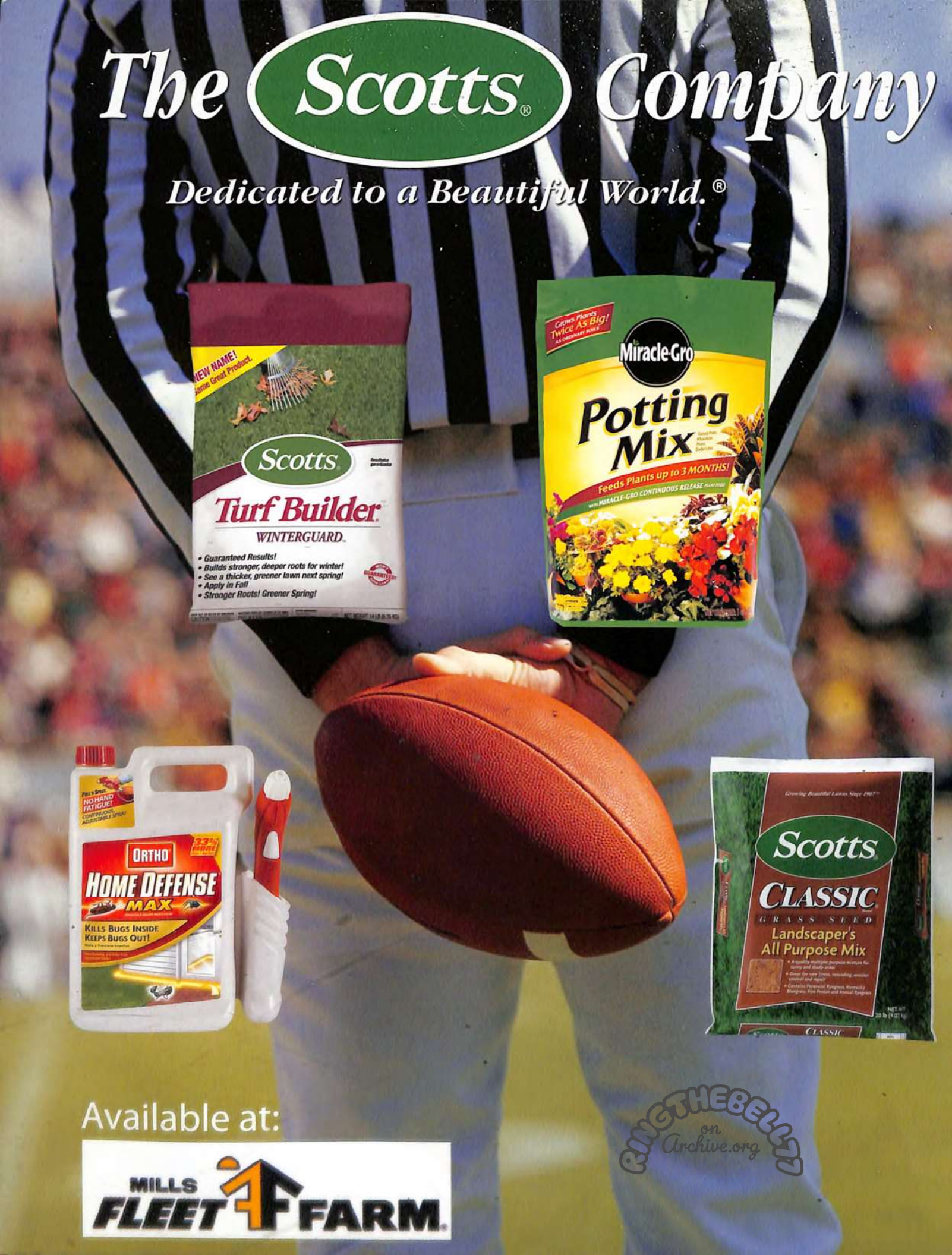
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MON., AUGUST 11	CINCINNATI BENGALS	7 PM	ESPN
SAT., AUGUST 16	@ SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS	8 PM	STATE
FRI., AUGUST 22	@ DENVER BRONCOS	8 PM	STATE
THURS., AUGUST 28	TENNESSEE TITANS	6 PM	STATE

2008 Regular Season Schedule

MON., SEPTEMBER 8	MINNESOTA VIKINGS	6 PM	ESPN
SUN., SEPTEMBER 14	@ DETROIT LIONS	12 NOON	FOX
SUN., SEPTEMBER 21	DALLAS COWBOYS	7:15 PM	NBC
SUN., SEPTEMBER 28	@ TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS	12 NOON	FOX
SUN., OCTOBER 5	ATLANTA FALCONS	12 NOON	FOX
SUN., OCTOBER 12	@ SEATTLE SEAHAWKS	3:15 PM	FOX
SUN., OCTOBER 19	INDIANAPOLIS COLTS	3:15 PM	CBS
SUN., OCTOBER 26	BYE		
SUN., NOVEMBER 2	@ TENNESSEE TITANS	12 NOON	FOX
SUN., NOVEMBER 9	@ MINNESOTA VIKINGS	12 NOON	FOX
SUN., NOVEMBER 16	CHICAGO BEARS	*12 NOON	FOX
MON., NOVEMBER 24	@ NEW ORLEANS SAINTS	7:30 PM	ESPN
SUN., NOVEMBER 30	CAROLINA PANTHERS	*12 NOON	FOX
SUN., DECEMBER 7	HOUSTON TEXANS	*12 NOON	CBS
SUN., DECEMBER 14	@ JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS	*12 NOON	FOX
MON., DECEMBER 22	@ CHICAGO BEARS	7:30 PM	ESPN
SUN., DECEMBER 28	DETROIT LIONS	*12 NOON	FOX

* Start time may shift due to flexible scheduling

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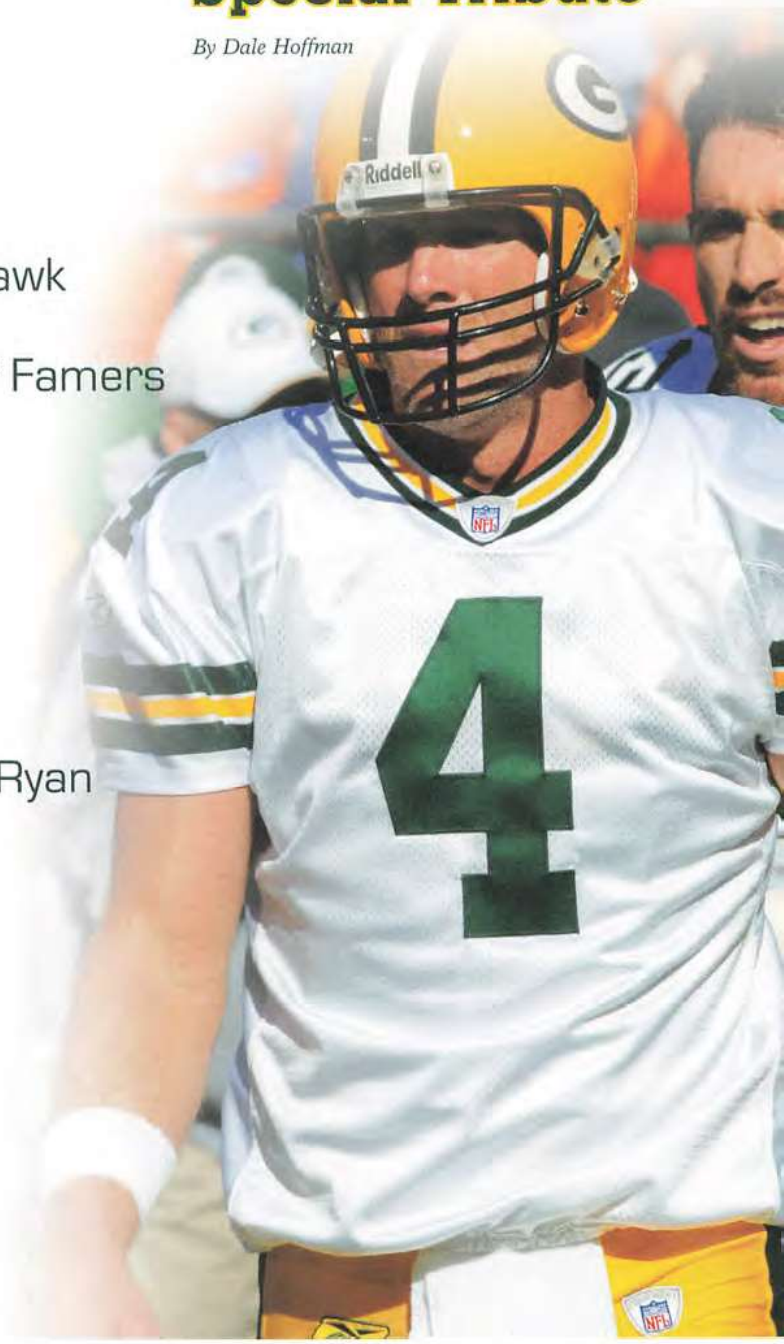

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From the gridiron, to the courtroom, to the front office, Murphy has always stepped up to challenges.

GREEN BAY PACKERS PRESIDENT MARK MURPHY: LEADING THE WAY

By Mike Spofford - Packers.com

Back in the early 1980s, Washington Redskins head coach Joe Gibbs used to walk through the locker room, pause for a regular visit with starting safety and co-captain Mark Murphy, and find out what was going on with his team.

"He would stop and ask me, 'What do you think the team is thinking?'" Murphy recalled. "He was always asking if there was anything we could do differently, trying to be sensitive to the players.

"He was very sincere, and you always trusted whatever he said. He was always about what's best for the team and the organization."

Little did Murphy know it at the time, but those chats at his locker laid valuable groundwork for his markedly successful post-playing career.

Serving as a captain for back-to-back Super Bowl teams and playing for a Hall of Fame coach like Gibbs helped Murphy establish the dynamic leadership skills that have seen him go on to work on the executive committee for the NFL Players Association, as a trial attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice, and as athletic director for two NCAA Division I programs in Colgate and Northwestern.

His career has now come full circle, so to speak, back to the NFL. In January, Murphy took over for Bob Harlan as the Green Bay Packers' new President and CEO, roles in which he applies daily the leadership lessons he learned as a player and in all his other occupations along the way.

A LEADER IN UNIFORM

Shortly after becoming the Redskins head coach in 1981, Gibbs was quickly struck by Murphy's intelligence as a defensive signal caller and his dedication as a player. An undrafted free agent out of Colgate, Murphy took the tough road to the NFL.

"What he got out of football, I think he got every ounce, every minute that he could get out of his playing career, and it's because he was totally devoted and dedicated," Gibbs said. "If you took him just as the athlete – foot speed and all that – he wouldn't have measured up. It's not what you picture.

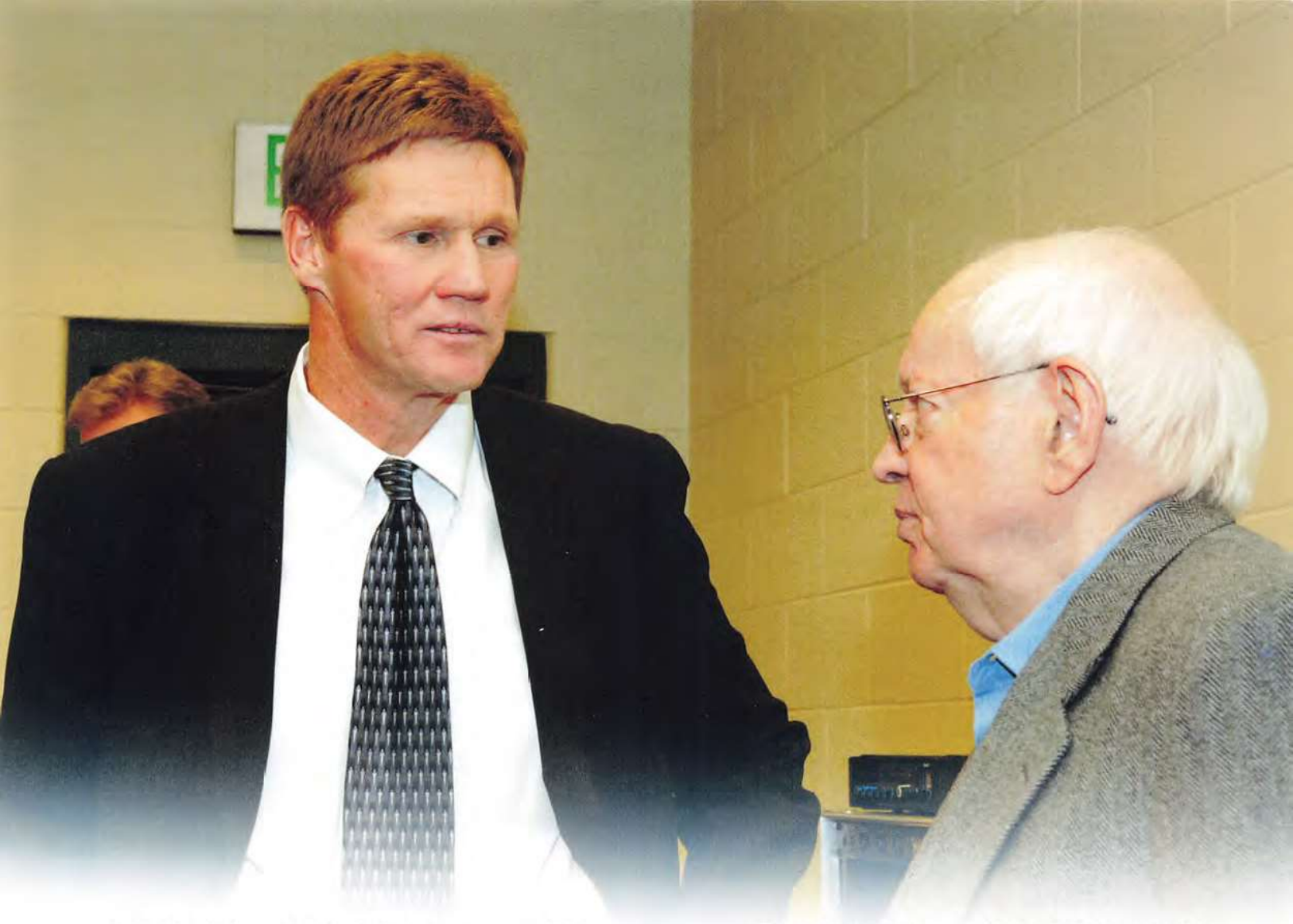
"But with some guys, you get as much as you can out of what you've got, and he was somebody everybody looked towards. He was very bright. He ran the whole defense, and he had a lot to do with us being successful."

Gibbs did too, of course, and Murphy always was tuned in to how the team responded to Gibbs' leadership. The Redskins started 0-5 in 1981, Gibbs' first season, and then went on to win 36 of 42 games (including Super Bowl XVII) before losing their bid for back-to-back titles following the 1983 season, when Murphy went to the Pro Bowl.

During that time, while Murphy was getting the most he could out of himself as a player, Gibbs was getting the most out of a rather unheralded group that included six other undrafted free agents in the starting lineup in addition to Murphy.

"He saw things in players that maybe others didn't, and he could get things out of people that maybe others hadn't been able to," Murphy said. "That's really the definition of a successful leader. I think you have to motivate people and get them to accomplish things they didn't know were possible.

"That's what I kind of saw with Coach Gibbs. Here was



a team that had never really had much success, and he was able to move us beyond that. A lot of it was just the power of his leadership."

Gibbs considered Murphy the very grounded professional needed in a locker room that had some true characters. Washington's offensive linemen were nicknamed "The Hogs," while the receiving corps was known as the "Fun Bunch." And while Murphy was a necessary foil personality-wise, he was witnessing first-hand how Gibbs was finding roles, large and small, for every contributor and molding a successful team.

"You learn the importance of having everybody on the same page, the importance of everybody looking out for the best interests of the team as a whole as opposed to individuals," Murphy said. "That's not always easily done, but that's where Coach Gibbs was really effective."

Murphy's eight-year playing career ended with a 1984 knee injury, but not before the experience he gained working both for a proven leader and as a leader himself had set him up well for his post-playing career.

Fully prepared

It's easy to see how some of his post-football career stops have prepared Murphy to be the Packers' top executive.

Going from a collegiate athletic administrator to his current position has been a somewhat natural transition. At both Colgate and Northwestern, Murphy had large operations under his watch. He had to hire people and fire people, and deal with the day-to-day present business as well as plan for the long-term future.

His work with the NFL Players Association should also prove valuable in Green Bay, especially with the coming negotiations on a new collective bargaining agreement between the owners and the players. Having been through those negotiations from the "other" side, Murphy can perhaps provide some insight that the league's owners wouldn't otherwise have.

Where his four-year stint as a trial attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice fits in is a little harder to gauge, but even arguing cases in front of judges and juries is experience he draws upon as a high-level administrator.

"I was in court all the time, and it really helps you develop your skills as an advocate," he said. "Even though I'm not trying cases now, you're always stating an argument or pushing a position, and I think that training as a trial attorney has been helpful to me over my career."

Murphy also learned how, and why, to fight the good

fight in what he calls the most memorable case he tried.

In the early 1990s, Murphy represented the Census Bureau in a number of cases stemming from the 1990 census. In one of them, the state of Montana had lost a congressional seat in Washington, D.C., and was challenging the apportionment formula that determined how many members of the House of Representatives each state was allotted.

Because the case involved a congressional seat, it was put on a fast track, and Murphy's task was to present the government's case in front of a three-judge panel. Only he walked in that fateful day only to discover that of the three judges, one was a state judge from Montana, and another was a federal judge from Montana.

"The odds were kind of stacked against me at the trial level," Murphy said, chuckling at the memory.

But Murphy made the best case he could, and even though he lost (as expected), he had established a trial record strong enough for the government to win on appeal, which it did when the Supreme Court reversed the three-judge panel's decision. Murphy had moved on to Colgate by then, but he followed the case and took some pride in knowing his hard work wasn't for naught.

"The lesson is no matter how well you play or how well you prepare, you're not going to win everything," he said. "But you always try to do the best job you can, be well-prepared and make the best case you can. No matter the situation, you're increasing your chances of success."

GETTING STARTED

Murphy's tenure in Green Bay is roughly six months old, but he's already starting to take on both the immediate and long-term challenges the franchise will face.

In addition to keeping up with the league's collective bargaining issues, the club also is closely studying how to maximize its revenue and identify new revenue streams. During a time when new stadiums in Indianapolis, Dallas and New York will be opening in the next few years, the league's revenue landscape is constantly changing. And while the Packers have resided comfortably in the upper half of the league's teams in annual revenue the past few years, the franchise can't afford to stop looking ahead.

"The first priority is really the strategic plan, to make sure we have a solid plan for the next three to five years in place," Murphy said. "With me starting new, it's a chance to look at some of the challenges and some of the issues maybe a little differently than we have in the past, and I think the strategic plan will help with the process."

Much like those locker room chats with Gibbs were just the start of Murphy's leadership-oriented career.

"To be truthful, I would have thought he'd have been real successful in any field he went into, but had I guessed, I would have pictured him more in the business world," Gibbs said.

"But having said that, if you had asked everybody to evaluate those teams and those players, he would have been a top pick as somebody that all the coaches would have said is going to go on to be very successful."

MURPHY (CENTER RIGHT) WITH NFL COMMISSIONER ROGER GOODELL (CENTER LEFT), PACKERS GM TED THOMPSON (RIGHT) AND CHAIRMAN EMERITUS BOB HARLAN. (LEFT)

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Thompson's and McCarthy's mutual dedication has resulted in success for the Packers.

COLLABORATION IN DEDICATION

By Mike Spofford · Packers.com

Back in early January of 2006, when General Manager Ted Thompson was searching for a new head coach of the Green Bay Packers, he made it clear to the job candidates he interviewed what he was looking for.

"The term 'partnership' is something he referred to a number of times throughout the question-and-answer process," said Mike McCarthy, whom Thompson ultimately hired on Jan. 12 of that year. "He was looking for someone to work with, not against, and not someone who would just get in line.

"He wanted to build a true partnership, because he thought that was a key to the program that he had envisioned here in Green Bay."

Two-and-a-half years later, Thompson and McCarthy have formed the type of partnership that was at the forefront of that vision. Since the two joined forces after Thompson's first season in Green Bay, the 2005 campaign that ended with a 4-12 record, the team has improved to 8-8 and then to 13-3, within an overtime period of a Super Bowl appearance last season.

For Thompson and McCarthy, their successful working relationship is built on several components, including clearly defined job boundaries, strengths each brings to his job, communication skills, personality traits and shared philosophies.

All those elements have meshed to help the Packers' two football leaders construct one of the youngest, yet one of the most competitive teams in the league.

Team President/CEO Mark Murphy sees nothing but positive indications of the possibility for a team poised to contend for a championship for several years.

"Ted and Mike work extremely well together, that is very apparent," Murphy said. "They really give us our best combination of football leadership since Ron Wolf and Mike Holmgren. I think their relationship and its results thus far provide great optimism for the future."

JOB BOUNDARIES

As GM, Thompson's ongoing challenge is to build the most talented roster that he can, upgrading whenever possible through the draft, trades, waiver wire or free agency. As head coach, McCarthy's task is to mold that roster into a competitive team, one that works well together and improves as it matures.

"If it's a personnel matter, we talk about how a particular player would fit in, what we think that player's role would be, how it would affect our locker room, how it would affect other players at that position," Thompson said. "Because there's always an equal and opposite reaction to anything you do."

That willingness to seek the other's opinion, and discuss differing points of view, helps build the trust that allows one to comfortably defer to the other at the appropriate time.

"I think the people who truly get football and understand the true team concept and what makes a successful football team, those are the people who can definitely check their ego," said John Schneider, one of the Packers' directors of football operations.

"Both Ted and Mike are very comfortable in their own skin, so when it comes to their professional life, they don't have to be patted on the back or consistently told they're doing a great job. They both have a natural feel for doing what they think is right."

Schneider has known Thompson since 1992, when the two were in different personnel roles for the Packers, and

he's known McCarthy since 1997, when both worked for the Kansas City Chiefs. He believes there's a background element that helps make Thompson and McCarthy such a good fit, and helped get their relationship off to a strong start.

Back in 1999, when McCarthy first came to Green Bay as quarterbacks coach, Thompson was director of player personnel under GM Ron Wolf. The Packers' future head coach saw a structure similar to the one currently in place, while the GM was learning his trade from one of the most respected leaders in the business.

"Mike and his staff have confidence in Ted and his staff that we're going to get the best available players," Schneider said, "and there's not a lot of 'his guy, my guy' type of deal."

They're "our guys" to these guys.

"Ted's always about what's in the best interests of our football team, and when you have that as the primary focus without the emotion or the ego, it makes the job a lot easier, because we both view it as our football team," McCarthy said. "I don't view it as my football team or his football team. We both have tremendous respect for this organization and the opportunity we've been given, and we're trying to fulfill that opportunity to the highest degree."

Communication, which both men consider the cornerstone of their working relationship, is constant. Their most extensive conversations during the season come on Mondays, when they evaluate the previous day's game.

"We talk it through, different things in the game – who played well, who didn't play so well, things we need to improve on," McCarthy said. "I'm very open and honest about the coaching and the adjustments in the game, because I feel I have a responsibility – and it's always been in my nature – for as critical as you are of the players, you have to be the same about your participation in the gameday preparation and adjustments."

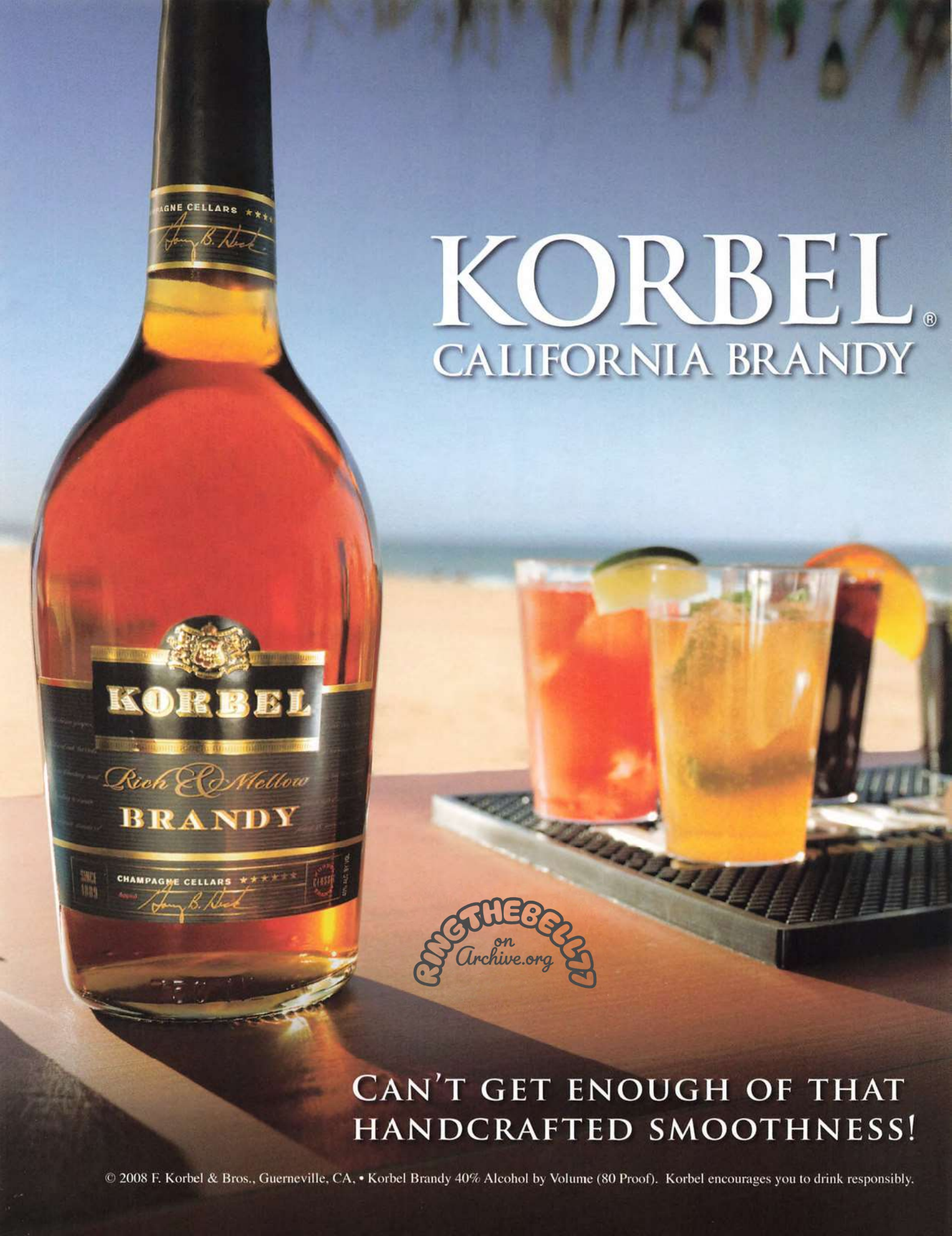
Thompson appreciates that openness, but he steadfastly refrains from becoming a Monday morning quarterback himself. He prefers to step away from the details and evaluate where there's been progress or a lack thereof, and that serves them both well.

"Mike's the head coach of the football team and I've always told him that," Thompson said. "I'm not going to say you have to play this guy this way and we have to throw the ball to this guy. We don't do that. We talk more about how the team's doing, how's the growth. Where are we compared to where we want to be?"

Staying steady

Coming off an NFC Championship Game appearance, the team is where Thompson and McCarthy would like it to be heading into 2008. But it has taken time and some trouble to get there.

The Packers were 1-4 at the bye week, and 4-8 with one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"SOMETHING THAT I THINK GETS LOST IS WE REALLY TRY AND STAY FOCUSED ON BUILDING A CHAMPIONSHIP PROGRAM, NOT JUST TRYING TO BUILD ONE CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM," MCCARTHY SAID.

month to go in 2006, McCarthy's first season at the helm. But with an emotional steadiness they carried with them in meeting rooms, on the practice field, and in the public eye, Thompson and McCarthy weathered the storms and kept everyone under their watch believing the team and organization were on the right track.

It wasn't easy, but the patience and perseverance were absolutely necessary.

"The NFL is a terrible business, really, for your emotions, because when you win, you're unbelievably exhilarated, and when you lose, you're devastated beyond description," said Thompson, a former player himself.

"But it's our task to be leaders here. It's our task to be steady, to be consistent, to have a smile on your face even when you don't feel like smiling, to pick everybody up because everybody's hurting when you lose... I think it's incumbent upon both of us as leaders here to project that kind of steadiness so that people feel assured that, OK, we had a bad day, and now we're going on to the next thing. I think people respond to that."

So does McCarthy, who saw his players respond with four straight victories to close 2006 and begin turning the corner. Then came the challenge of handling success properly, which McCarthy often emphasizes is even more important, and the team did that when it was 4-0 and 10-1 at different times in 2007.

"He handles the highs and lows better than I do, and frankly I think that's a strength of mine," McCarthy said of Thompson. "He's very, very steady, and he's very realistic. I think we both do a good job from our respective angles of keeping our finger on the pulse of the football team."

PLENTY MORE TO SHARE

By nature, Thompson's demeanor is stoic and reserved while McCarthy possesses a more expressive and aggressive personality. But those contrasting traits can work well together because as leaders they believe in many of the same approaches to winning in the NFL.

They believe people - players in particular - thrive in an environment that's competitive but not stressful. And those players need to have a certain character or make-up for that environment to foster success.

They also believe that the best plan is to work toward sustained, not fleeting, success. With Thompson and his staff focused on acquiring top young talent and McCarthy and his staff charged with developing that young talent, the Packers will be one of the league's youngest teams for the third straight year in 2008, but hopefully well-stocked for success over the long haul.

"Something that I think gets lost is we really try and stay focused on building a championship program, not just trying to build one championship team," McCarthy said.

"I think that's important, because everybody can fall into that - trying to win one at all costs in one particular year at the expense of jeopardizing the future of your football program.

"We have not done that to date, and that's something that we're proud of. We're winning and we're doing it the right way."

They're also going to do it in tandem for the foreseeable future. As last season wound down, both received five-year contract extensions that should keep them in Green Bay through at least 2012.

Both view their parallel contracts not as an element of comfort or job security, but as one of commitment from the organization - a commitment to their plan, to their program, and to their partnership.

"I always knew I was in the right place the day I got the job," McCarthy said. "This is an opportunity of a lifetime, and I don't think I could be partnered with a better individual."

That feeling, of course, is mutual.

"We've talked about it, and I have no intention of trying to hire another head coach," Thompson said. "I think the commitment that the Packers made to each of us was certainly gratifying, and it's humbling. We understand we have a mighty task in front of us, and we want to do it together."

2008 PACKERS DRAFT

Round 2 - #36

WR Jordy Nelson
Kansas State
6'3" 217 lbs.

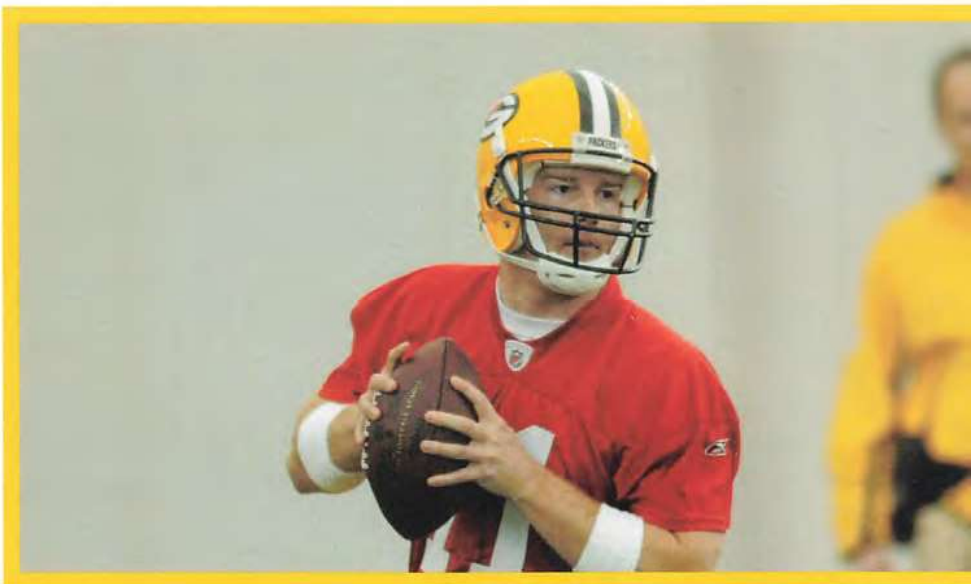
Consensus All-American, shattered school season-records in 2007, hauling in 122 passes for 1,606 yards (13.2 avg) and 11 touchdowns. He scored twice on five punt returns for 264 yards (52.8 avg) and registered a school record 140 points during his senior campaign.

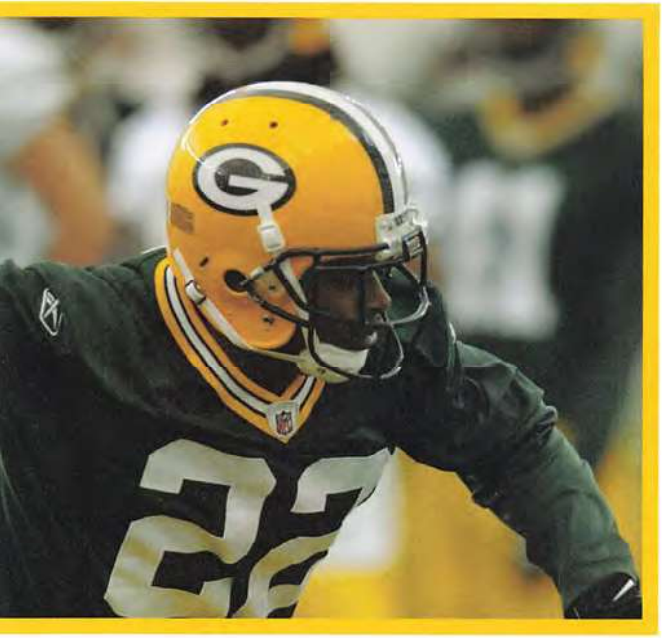
AN ALL-AMERICAN AT KANSAS STATE, NELSON IS FUNDAMENTALLY SOUND AND POSSESSES GREAT SPEED.

Round 2 - #56

QB Brian Brohm
Louisville
6'3" 223 lbs

Brohm closed his career as the Big East Conference's all-time record holder in passing yardage, becoming the first player in league history to throw for over 10,000 yards (10,775), compiling a 24-9 record as a starter.





Round 2 - #60

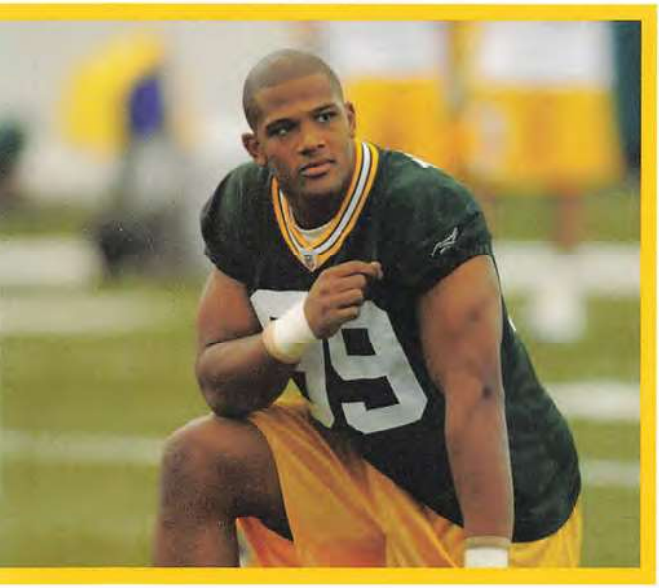
CB Pat Lee
Auburn
6'0" 194 lbs.

In 48 games at Auburn, Lee started 22 contests at right cornerback. He recorded 103 tackles (74 solos) with three stops for losses of 12 yards, five career INT's and a quarterback pressure.

Round 3 - #91

TE Jermichael Finley
Texas
6'5" 247 lbs.

In 26 games at Texas, Finley started 17 contests. He ranks fourth on the school's career-record list for tight ends with 76 receptions and sixth with 947 yards (12.5 avg).



Round 4 - #102

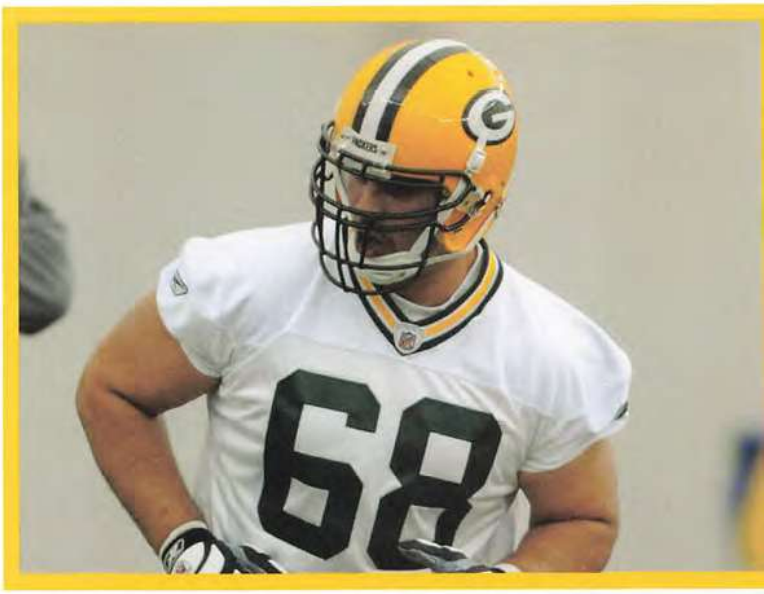
DE Jeremy Thompson
Wake Forest
6'4" 270 lbs.

Thompson started 32 of 46 games at right defensive end, recording 112 tackles (73 solos), including 8.5 sacks for minus 73 yards and 20.5 stops for losses of 92 yards.

Round 4 - #135

G Josh Sitton
Central Florida
6'3" 317 lbs.

Three year starter on the O-line for Central Florida. Helped pave the way for Kevin Smith to rush for 4,864 yards from 2005-07, including an NCAA best 2,567 yards and 29 touchdowns in 2007.



Round 5 - #150

T Breno Giacomini
Louisville
6'7" 311 lbs.

All-Big East Conference second-team choice by *The NFL Draft Report*. Recorded 78 knockdowns and 10 touchdown-resulting blocks while starting all 12 games at right tackle.

Round 7 - #209

QB Matt Flynn
LSU
6'2" 222 lbs.

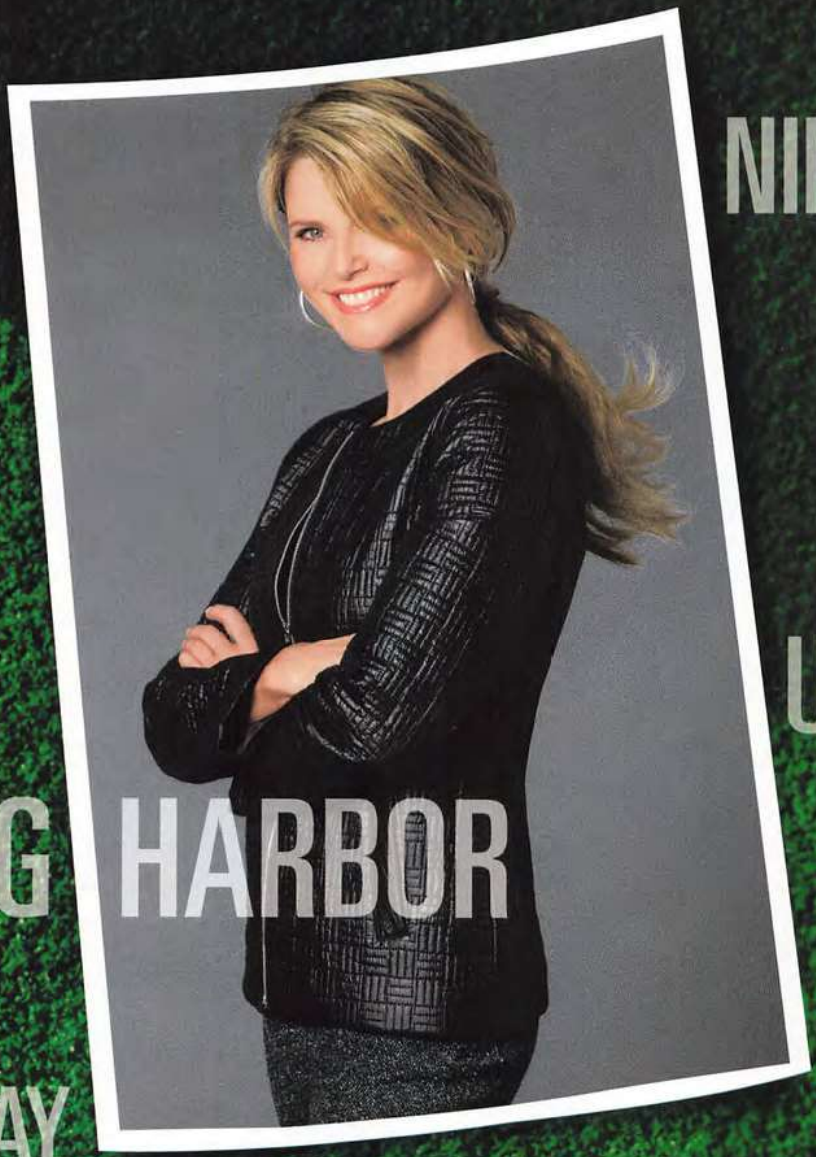
Flynn completed 245 of 437 passes (56.1 percent) for 3,096 yards, 30 touchdowns and 13 interceptions in his LSU career. He carried 128 times for 340 yards (2.7 avg) and five scores. On 565 plays, he amassed 3,436 yards in total offense.

Round 7 - #217

WR Brett Swain
San Diego State
6'0" 203 lbs.

Played in 44 career contests, starting 26 times. Led the team in receiving with a career-high 58 catches for 973 yards and five touchdowns in 2007.

BRAND NEW BRANDS
FALL LINE UP



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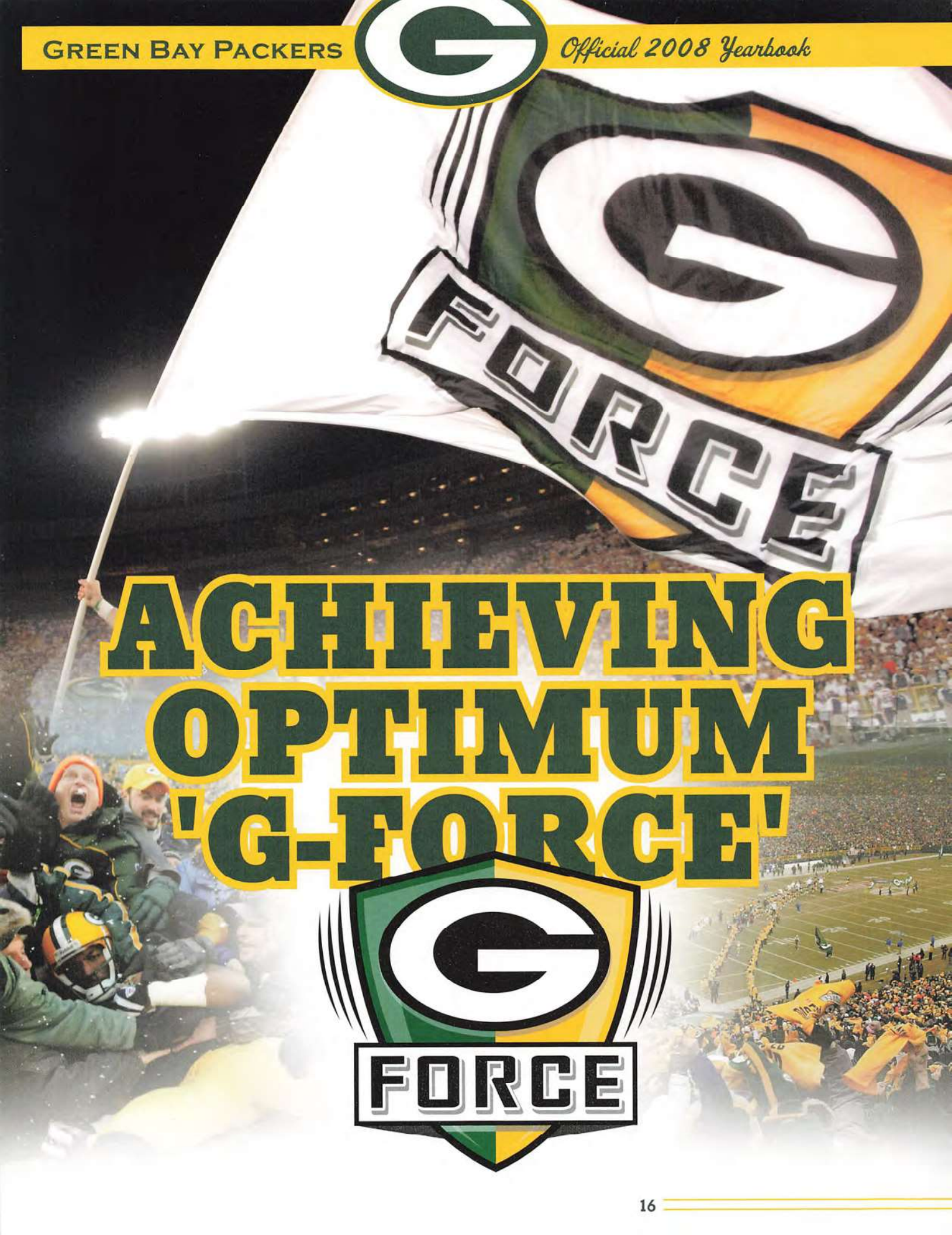

ACHIEVING OPTIMUM 'G-FORCE'

By Bill Van Lannen

Colorful yellow and white towels, electronic billboard messages, yard signs and a giant stadium flag all made G-Force an increasingly prominent part of the Packers game-day experience during the 2007 season. Expect even greater things in 2008.

During the upcoming season, in a testament to the impact G-Force has had in oh-so-short a time, the G-Force logo will grace the team's annual pocket schedule. It will also be incorporated in the team's ticket designs in an effort to capitalize on the groundswell of support the catch phrase enjoyed last season.

"We're very happy with how it's been received," said Kandi Goltz, the Packers' marketing and entertainment coordinator. "We do market research during our home games and it shows that people have been overwhelmingly enthused about G-Force."

What is G-Force? Well, it's a lot of things. It's the slow buildup to game time at a parking lot tailgate party. It's the anticipation of the opening kickoff, now just moments away. It's the palpable sense of exhilaration one feels as the players emerge from the stadium tunnel. It's the electricity of *Monday Night Football*. It's the roar of the crowd as a Packers player crosses the goal line at a climactic moment in a closely played contest.

Something as intimidating as 72,928 Packers fans warrants a powerful rallying cry. It's with this in mind that the concept of G-Force was born.

Other teams can boast clever catch phrases, but G-Force is unique to the Packers - a colorful and highly visible way of "recognizing the dedication, loyalty and spirit of Packer fans on gameday," said Goltz.

G-Force made a splashy debut in 2007, its introduction coming in home victories over Philadelphia and San Diego. Newly introduced commemorative G-Force towels made for a stunning visual effect as they were waved under sunny skies made that much brighter by early season victories over these key opponents.

Long-time Packers fan Patrick Schaller of Orlando, Fla., said G-Force unleashed something he's rarely seen at Packers games.

"I've been to a lot of Packer games, but I've never felt the energy level like I felt it Sunday at the San Diego Chargers game (Sept. 23, 2007)," said Schaller. "The only thing that rivaled it was maybe the NFC Championship Game against Carolina." (Jan. 12, 1997)

"We want G-Force to be something people can rally behind and get their arms around," Goltz said upon the program's launch last fall. "The concept is new, but we've always had a

"WE WANT G-FORCE TO BE SOMETHING PEOPLE CAN RALLY BEHIND AND GET THEIR ARMS AROUND," GOLTZ SAID UPON THE PROGRAM'S LAUNCH LAST FALL. "THE CONCEPT IS NEW, BUT WE'VE ALWAYS HAD A GREAT FAN BASE. NOW WE'RE CALLING IT SOMETHING AND CHANNELING THAT ENERGY IN AN EFFORT TO REALLY MAKE A DIFFERENCE."

great fan base. Now we're calling it something and channeling that energy in an effort to really make a difference."

"While other teams around the league have supportive fans and use names such as the '12th Man™,' we believe no other fans have the passion or dedication of Packers fans at Lambeau Field. That's what G-Force is," said Craig Benzel, Packers director of marketing and corporate sales.

During training camp and the preseason, Packers fans were first introduced to G-Force through the logo featuring the Packers' "G" and the word, "Force." In the weeks leading up to the team's home opener, the new G-Force logo was prominently featured on Packers.com, training camp banners and large billboards around Green Bay.

The high-tech billboards located on the main highways leading to Green Bay were hard to miss as they greeted travelers with rotating electronic messages of inspiration such as "Time to use your outside voice," "Do your part, be a part of the game," and "72,928 starters on defense."

Fan giveaways are always well-received and the special commemorative G-Force rally towels proved no exception. G-Force promotions ran throughout the year with collector G-Force towels distributed at both home playoff games, including the NFC Championship Game against the New York Giants.

"Playoff Power Proud To Be Loud," read the gold towel distributed to fans as they entered the NFC title game last January. A white towel, also with the G-Force logo, was distributed prior to the team's divisional playoff victory over

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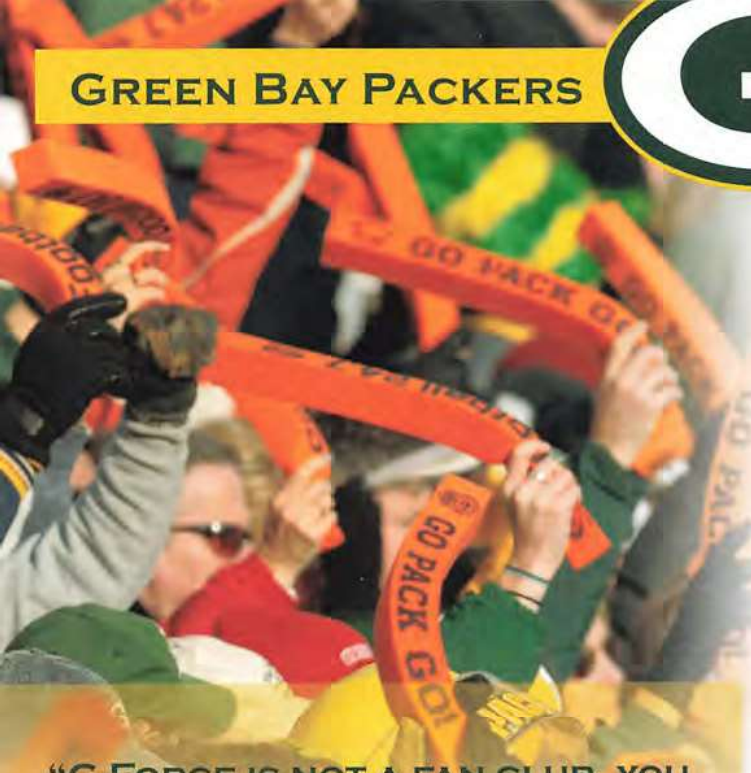

"G-FORCE IS NOT A FAN CLUB, YOU DON'T HAVE TO JOIN ANYTHING," SAID GOLTZ. "ANYONE WHO COMES TO THE GAME CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY CHEERING ALONG AT THE RIGHT TIME AND BEING A PART OF THIS WONDERFUL PACKERS COMMUNITY. THAT'S WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT."

the Seattle Seahawks. Both towels featured the dates of these historic games and are sure to end up prominently displayed in the private collections of Packers fans.

Near the entrances, and once inside the stadium, ever faithful fans were further encouraged to get in the spirit by concourse signs bearing other inspirational messages such as, "Leave your voice on the field today," "Creating a hostile work environment for opponents since 1919," and "Leave your voice today, it's only work tomorrow." Placement of the signs was subtle, the messages barely noticeable after awhile as they sank into the collective fans' subconscious.

Not to be missed was a giant G-Force banner unveiled prior to player introductions, eliciting sustained applause as the banner was carried triumphantly across the field. A G-Force flag waved in the north end zone, attesting to its newfound prominence. During the game, video salutes to G-Force were broadcast on the team's giant Tundra Vision scoreboard.

On game days, the team's marketing staff set out many hours before the stadium opened to plant hundreds of G-Force yard signs along Oneida Street and Lombardi Avenue, the central routes leading to the stadium.

The never-before-seen signs paved the way to victory, so to speak, and were quickly snatched up by eager collectors of all things Packers as fans made their way home. "That's one time we really wanted them (the signs) to disappear; we planned it that way," said Goltz, adding that the staff had a great time with the large-scale project despite the additional effort.

Though largely geared toward the fans, G-Force did not go unnoticed by the players or the coaches. Key players cited the inspirational support of an enthusiastic home crowd during their postgame comments.

G-Force has been around for fewer than a dozen home games, but like a highly prized rookie who put up big numbers in his first year, it looks as though its best years lie ahead. Other surprises await the loyal and passionate Packers fan base.

"G-Force is not a fan club, you don't have to join anything," said Goltz. "Anyone who comes to the game can make a difference by cheering along at the right time and being a part of this wonderful Packers community. That's what it's all about."

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Aaron Rodgers' patience throughout his career has served him well. He will be the first new starting quarterback for the Packers since 1992.

A WAITING GAME

By Lori Nickel - Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

For three long years Aaron Rodgers had conditioned himself to stop worrying about anything he could not control. It wasn't easy. Bright, hard-working people used to leading make absolutely the worst backseat drivers. Patience is one thing. Passivity is another.

Still, last February, Rodgers told himself to think what he has always made himself believe before - that the NFL's icon quarterback Brett Favre was coming back for another year, that Rodgers would have to wait another season, that in the end somehow it really was going to be OK.

There's a saying: 'Hope is putting faith to work when doubting would be easier.' Rodgers did his best to live it rather than just preach it.

"I had finally come to the point of -- and this is from the heart here, it's true -- I really came to a point of contentment with where I was with the Packers," said Rodgers. "I even told myself, 'Brett's going to come back, and it's going to be fine, I still have a lot of things to get done, I can still be a leader of this football team.'"

And then the road Rodgers had been cruising along made a hairpin turn. Favre unexpectedly ended the longest running show in the NFL in March after 16 years and 275 consecutive starts. And just like that, Rodgers' long pilgrimage had ended. He was the first new starting quarterback for the Packers since 1992.

"Everything happens for a reason," Rodgers said. "I'm here, I'm the starter now. I don't know what's going to happen. I pray those things don't happen but you never know. I just know I won't forget about what road I have taken -- it was tough at points -- but it's just so much more satisfying the way it's been. And I wouldn't change it."

The road. For Rodgers it began in childhood, when he studied football. It was paved by his father and older brother with support and competitiveness. It jogged around recruiting obstacles to junior college and then to the University of California. It got really rocky in the spring of 2005 right before he got drafted. Then it twisted and turned through three seasons as Favre's understudy.

The road has been long. But the road made Rodgers ready to take on his biggest challenge yet.

Like a lot of boys, Rodgers began watching football when he was four years old. But he watched with football cards crammed in his fists and statistics floating around in his brain. He also played the Strat-O-Matic baseball game. He loved numbers and was placed in the gifted and talented program as a kid.

But he was still studying on Sundays, when the Rodgers family would watch the San Francisco 49ers games. Rodgers studied everything quarterback Joe Montana did, from his mind-boggling comeback wins to the four Super Bowl championships to his media interviews.

The Rodgers family– father Ed, a chiropractor, 26-year-old Luke, 19-year-old Jordan and Aaron -- connected through sports.

Though Ed was a college lineman for Chico State, he didn't push his boys into sports, he just coached them in anything from baseball to basketball to football.

"I can probably count the number of times that he actually missed a sporting event of either my brothers or myself, growing up, which is very special," said Rodgers. "He's definitely the antithesis of a guy trying to re-live some of his glory days through his kids."

At Pleasant Valley High, Rodgers excelled but was not heavily recruited. That was his first detour in the road -- he went to Butte (Calif.) College. But this is important too, as it will play a part as he developed his leadership later for him in Green Bay.

"I was 18, the starting quarterback," explained Rodgers of his junior college stint, "with a 25-year-old tailback, a 25 year-old-center, a 23-year-old left tackle who's been in the Army, a 22-year-old right tackle, and 23-year-old guy across the ball who was in jail."

Rodgers led Butte to a 10-1 record and No. 2 national ranking. That caught the eyes of California coach Jeff Tedford, who was actually checking out another player, Garrett Cross. In watching film, Tedford noticed Rodgers, and Rodgers transferred to California.

In two seasons at California, Rodgers passed for 5,469 yards and 43 touchdowns (13 interceptions). He was first team All-Pacific-10.

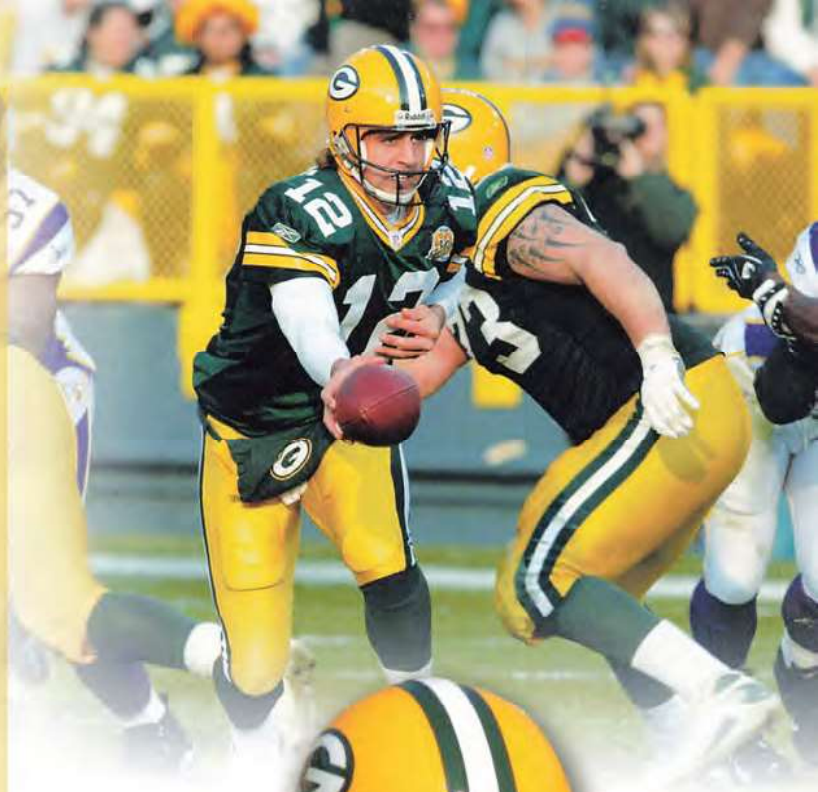
Then Rodgers made the first crucial decision of his football career. He decided to turn pro.

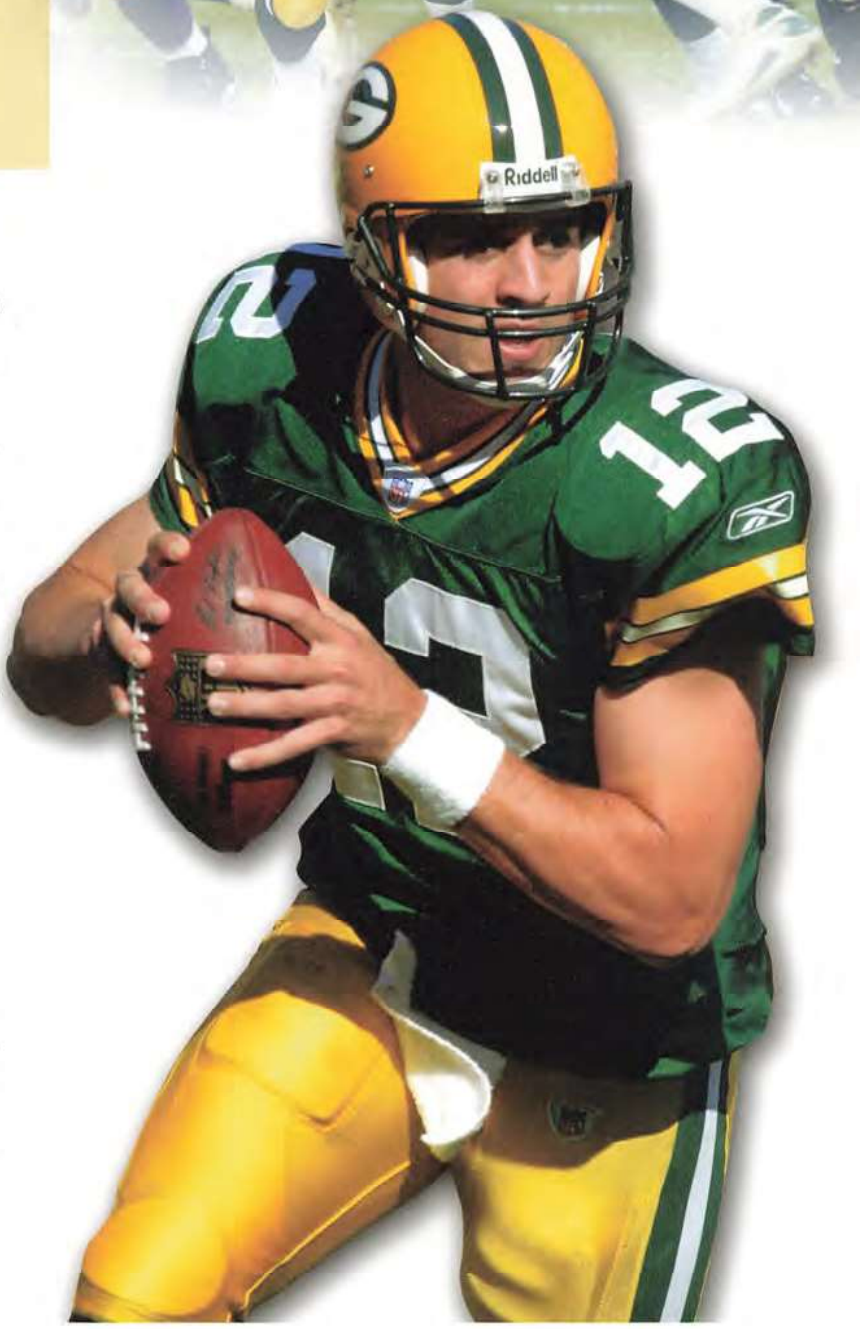
He went to the combine in February of 2005 and met with several teams - none of them the Packers: San Francisco, which had the top overall pick in the draft, Miami (No. 2), Tampa Bay (No. 5), Arizona (No. 8) and Seattle. He also visited Cleveland (No. 3). For a while, the 49ers wanted him.

The day of the draft, Rodgers was one of a handful of players flown to New York to wait in the green room as they were picked in the draft. Two hours before the draft began, Rodgers had a meeting with family, friends and his agent and got pretty bad news.

The agent said Rodgers was not going No. 1 with San Francisco. He was not going with Miami. Or Cleveland.

"I THINK HE INTERACTS WITH THE PLAYERS VERY WELL," SAID QUARTERBACKS COACH TOM CLEMENTS. "TALKS TO THE RECEIVERS, TELLS THEM WHAT HE'S THINKING, TELLS THEM, 'MAYBE YOU SHOULD RUN THE ROUTE THIS WAY,' OR AT LEAST FINDING OUT FROM THEM WHY THEY DID CERTAIN THINGS SO THEY CAN GET ON THE SAME PAGE."





Tampa Bay was also ruled out. Arizona was a maybe.

"We just talked about preparing ourselves for a long day," said Rodgers. "My agent said if we get past 16, nobody is going to take you between 17 to 23, so the next team that could possibly take you is Green Bay and supposedly they like you."

That was the first Rodgers had heard anything about Green Bay, but he was sure it wouldn't matter, that he would go in the mid-teens, or someone would trade up for him.

Instead, Rodgers shifted in his seat in that green room for several long hours, long after the others had been chosen and left. It was a stunning development for the Packers. With 35-year-old Favre contemplating retirement every off-season, they jumped at the chance at Rodgers with the 24th pick.

"We felt like Aaron was a great value pick," said Packers general manager Ted Thompson, who made Rodgers his first selection as new GM of the team. "We felt like he was a player that really should have gone a lot higher."

Rodgers reflects about that moment in his life all the time. What if he had gone to any of those other teams?

The fact is, had the events of April 23, 2005, steered his course to the NFL just a degree off, Rodgers certainly wouldn't be here, charged with helping lead the Packers out of the post-Brett Favre era.

"I could have easily been a 49er, I could have easily stayed another year at Cal, different things could have happened but I believe that things happen for a reason," said Rodgers. "And that's why I think the convictions in the strong faith that I have in Christ allow me to believe that things happen for a reason, that things don't just randomly come together."

Rodgers' rookie year was like that green room: a long wait, a humbling experience.

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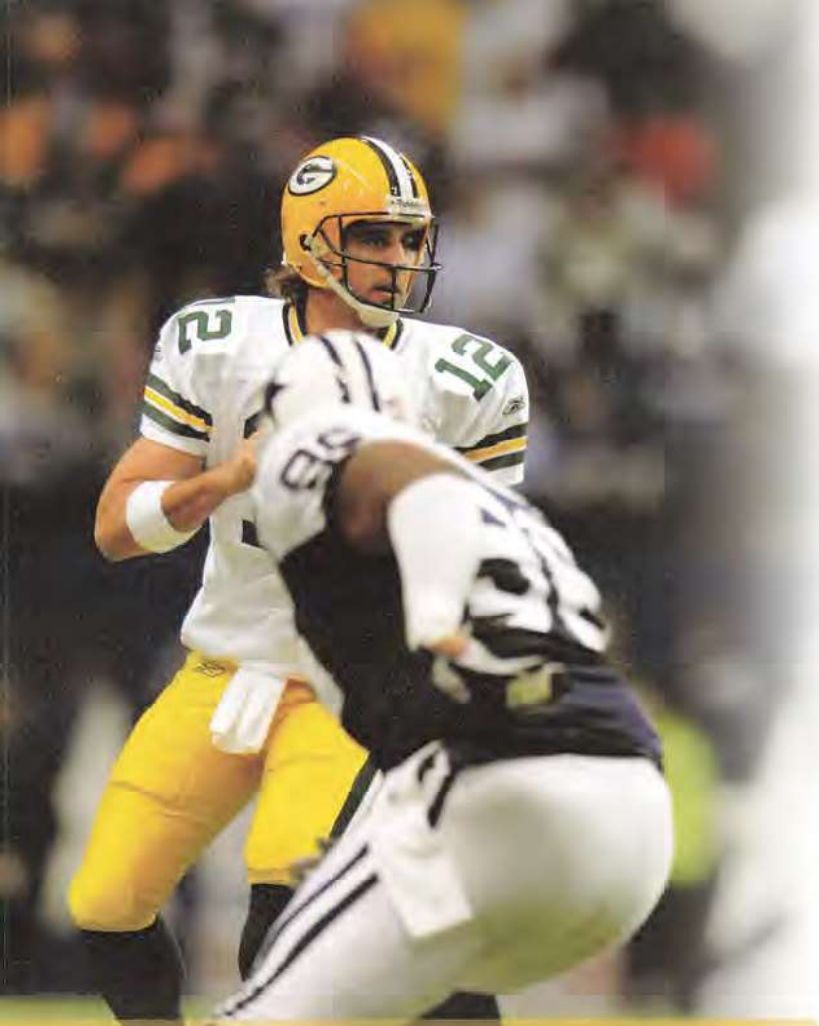


IN THE CLASH OF 10-1 TITANS, RODGERS ENTERED THE GAME AND HAD AN IMMEDIATE IMPACT. HE COMPLETED 18 OF 26 PASSES FOR 201 YARDS AND HIS FIRST AND ONLY NFL TOUCHDOWN - TO GREG JENNINGS.

He learned quickly to handle his delicate situation -- wanting to play and lead, but not overstepping his bounds with Favre -- with tact and respect. And he wised up in a hurry.

"My first year, Coach (Mike) Sherman and I had a discussion about Week 5 or 6," said Rodgers. "He said 'Hey, you're a good quarterback, you're going to have a good career, you need to really make the most of your practice opportunities.' I think he felt I was having a difficult time adjusting to not being 'The Guy.' It was definitely a good kick in the pants.

"I really grew up as a player from the first year to second year. The first thing I had to do was check my ego at the door. That's what I came to do. I was going to have a blast, doing what I love -- because we are blessed to play a sport that we love -- and then I was really going to take my opportunities in practice very seriously and look for ways to lead, knowing that at some point, it was going to be my team."

In Rodgers' second season, 2006, Sherman was fired, and in came new head man Mike McCarthy.

His preseason showed how much work he had put in during the off-season in McCarthy's quarterback school. Rodgers looked better. The year was marred by only one thing. The broken foot.

In Week 11, against the Patriots, Rodgers hurt his foot at the beginning of the third quarter. With the Packers struggling, Rodgers completed only 4 of 12 passes, rushed for 11 yards, was sacked three times and lost a fumble. He didn't tell anyone until a day after the game that he had played the entire time on a broken foot.

Frustrating? You can imagine. Suffering a season-ending injury in his fifth game when Favre had, at the time, 251 consecutive starts, just added insult to Rodgers' injury. Still, it was oft overlooked that he did fight through the injury and wasn't sidelined until the doctors got a hold of him.

Rodgers found encouraging words from Thompson as well.

"It really meant a lot to me that he sat down with me and just reassured me that he still believed in me, he still believed that I was going to have a good career and I was going to be the next in line," said Rodgers. "At the time it was really a tough day for me. I played poorly and broke my foot. Him saying those words to me really meant a lot to me -- and have stuck with me. I have a thing about me that I don't like letting people down."

2007 was a year of even more growth for Rodgers, though he liked to joke that he was still about 6-foot-2.

His preseason games showed he could make tough completions, scramble effortlessly and lead in the huddle.

But the game everyone remembers is Dallas, a clash of two 10-1 titans. With the Packers in the hole, 27-10 at Texas Stadium, Favre hurt his elbow in the second quarter. Rodgers came in and immediately revived the offense. Rodgers completed 18 of 26 passes for 201 yards and his first and only NFL touchdown - to Greg Jennings. Though the Packers' rally fell short of victory, Rodgers drew all-around praise for his solid showing under the circumstances.

What was happening behind the scenes was equally important.

Just as he had at Butte, Rodgers made an effort to connect with his teammates and get them on board.

"I think he interacts with the players very well," said quarterbacks coach Tom Clements. "Talks to the receivers, tells them what he's thinking, tells them, 'Maybe you should run the route this way,' or at least finding out from them why they did certain things so they can get on the same page."

Rodgers said relationships took time and that he wanted to put in the time in his teammates to build trust. This off-season he started hosting mid-week, catered parties at his house.

"I think it clicked in really last year and I realized when my time did come I really wanted to be more than just the guy to lead the team on Sundays. I wanted to be a friend, a close confidante. I wanted to be more."

So then, in three long years, this Rodgers has to show for his work statistically: seven games, 35 of 59 attempts, 329 yards, one touchdown, one interception and nine sacks. And the foot injury, plus a hamstring injury that occurred during a Dec. 3 practice near the end of 2007 and ended Rodgers' regular season.

It's amazing how they don't even come close to explaining his journey up to this point. The numbers scream inexperienced and unknown, which is way off-target. Clements said at this point, the essential teaching is done with Rodgers.

"He's intelligent, he knows the offense, he's executed the plays now for three years, he's very good from the adjustments that have to be made from the quarterback position," said Clements. "So he knows it. You don't have to teach him anymore. He's very good technically. Now it's more of talking about game situations."

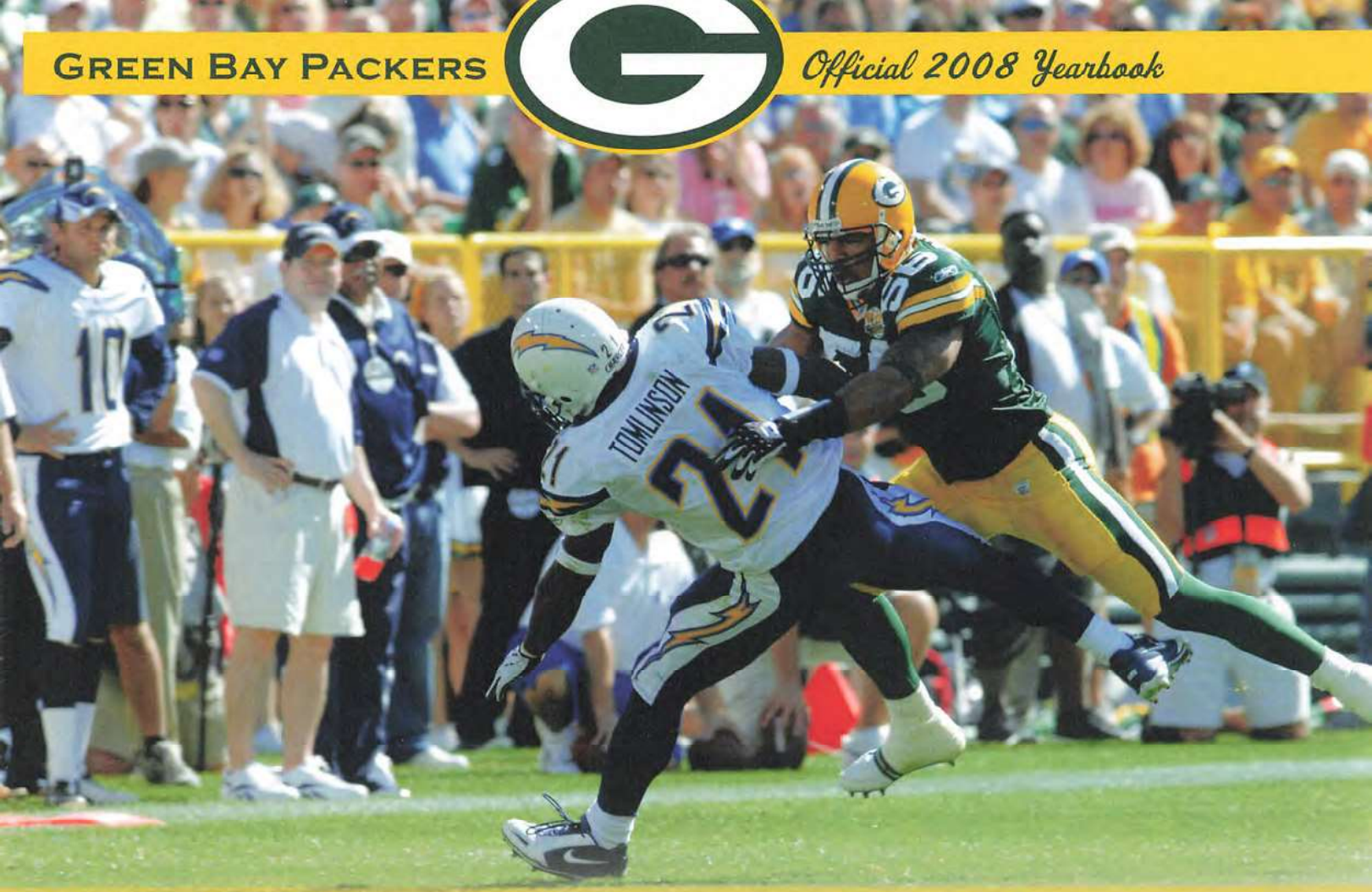
The weight – and wait – of it all is bound to come crashing down on Rodgers sometime on September 8, the opener for the 2008 season. Favre will be there to retire his No. 4 in Lambeau Field in what promises to be an emotional night for everyone in attendance. The game is Monday night and will be broadcast around the world. The opponent is a major division rival in Minnesota with last year's sack leader, Jared Allen, lining up 5 yards from Rodgers' facemask. The pressure is on.

"Well I think all athletes have jitters from the start. The good ones know how to channel it," said Thompson. "This is obviously a tremendous task that he has in front of him, at the same time we think he is as well-prepared as he could be. He's kind of done it the old-school way, he's sat on the bench for three years and watched another guy play and that's kind of the way quarterbacks used to come into the league. We think that will be a benefit but I think the key to this is the team.

"Aaron needs to wrap himself around the team, and the team needs to wrap itself around Aaron, because it will be the team doing it, even though the quarterback position is very vital."

Rodgers' closest friend on the team, his training camp and road game roommate, defensive end Aaron Kampman, also thinks the substance Rodgers is made of, toughened through the years of waiting and learning, and honed by appreciation, will carry him through that opening game and well beyond.

"That's the question. Everyone has a moment, or moments, in their lives, and that's part of the journey," said Kampman. "I would say what's inside of him makes him strong enough to handle this. It will be his faith. He's a man that understands that life is bigger than this game. At the same time he wants to do the very best with the gifts that he has been given. And I think that's what will get him through."



TANDEMS:
NICK BARNETT & A.J. HAWK

By Jason Wilde - Wisconsin State Journal

Ask Nick Barnett and A.J. Hawk about the friendship they've forged side-by-side as the linebacking leaders of the Green Bay Packers defense, and both men answer with the same bonding moment.

Dog training. Yes, dog training.

This past spring, Barnett and Hawk took a four-hour drive together up north to a canine obedience training facility -- Hawk with his German shepherd puppy, and Barnett with his presa canario pup, which is "like a muscular, big, pit bull/bulldog-looking thing," in Hawk's pseudo-veterinarian, non-expert parlance.

"We drove up in an RV and took 'em and dropped them off," Hawk said. "It was cool."

But that was just the latest step in a friendship that has been building since Hawk was drafted in the first round (fifth overall) in 2006 and joined Barnett, the team's 2003 first-round pick (29th overall).

Shortly before training camp, both players sat down for a conversation.

Q: How would you describe the friendship you two have?

Barnett: I think we have a pretty solid friendship. We live about six or eight houses down from each other on the [Fox] River, so we do a lot of wakeboarding and water things together. I ride my scooter over there, just to stop by and say hi. He lives two streets up, close enough where I can ride my jet ski over there and it takes less than a minute. I wouldn't say we're best of best friends,

but we hang out a lot and I think we're continuing to grow our friendship.

Hawk: We're good friends. From when I got here, we've grown a lot. I think me, him and Brady (Poppinga), and now Brandon (Chillar), the whole linebacker room is almost like a college-type atmosphere. I was used to that in college. My best friends still are linebackers who were with me in college -- Bobby Carpenter and Anthony Schlegel. And it's like that here.

Q: When the Packers drafted Aaron Rodgers in the first round in 2005, Brett Favre didn't exactly welcome him with open arms. Favre didn't particularly want to mentor him. How did you two hit it off initially?

Hawk: Nick was great when I got here. I remember telling (my wife) Laura and other people that. I really appreciate how Nick's been to me since I got here. Because he could've easily been (a jerk). He was a first-round pick, too, and he's The Guy on this defense. He's still our leader. So he didn't have to be that way to me. He could've not talked to me. And I know there are different situations around the league where that happens. I've told Nick, I really appreciate how he was when I got here. He wanted to work together, and he knew having us both here would help us both.

Barnett: I think the difference with Brett Favre and Aaron Rodgers is, both of them couldn't be on the field at the same time. And I think that (was the reason for) that rivalry. For me, personally, I'm always skeptical of anyone who's drafted that high in the draft. I'm always skeptical of any first-round pick. Because it's a lot of responsibility. There's a lot of pressure. And I expect a lot, and so does everybody else. That was the first thing -- I was curious to see if he was really that good of a player. And he came in and played great. I was hoping he was. I always felt the more good football players you can have on the football field at once, the better you're going to be. I'm able to play with more reckless abandon knowing if I make a mistake, or he makes a mistake, I'm going to be behind him to fix it or he's going to fix it for me.

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Q: A.J. mentioned the dynamic in the film room. Is that where you guys bond most?

Barnett: Work-wise, we spend a lot of time together. Obviously we're both linebackers, so we spend a lot of time in the meeting room together and on the field together. We're always having conversations when we're not in there, whether it's me and him and Poppinga about life or philosophy or whatever. I'm not afraid to come to him and ask him his opinion.

Hawk: I think me, him and Brady are all different film type of guys -- what we do, what we're looking for. And I think we've all learned from each other on that. Everyone watches film differently. So I enjoy watching film with him because we can talk about it afterward. When we're on the field, we have to talk, because we're working so closely together. I think being in the film room together has helped that. If you mic'ed both me and Nick up during a game, you'd hear us talking the whole time. It's almost like when you're around people and you're talking about your job, you almost have a different little language. I know what he's going to do, he knows what I'm going to do.

Q: You guys are on the field together so much -- not only in the base defense but in the nickel, too, since you hardly ever play dime -- have you actually reached a point where you have an unspoken communication?

Barnett: You can't play in our scheme and not communicate. You have to be on the same page. But I think the vocabulary has really minimized now. We don't have to explain much. We can say one word, something maybe not even in the playbook, between each other and understand what's about to go down.

Q: Even though you guys get along, is there a friendly rivalry between you two? Maybe for who has the most tackles or most interceptions or most sacks?

Barnett: I don't think there's ever been a tackle rivalry. We don't want to have many tackles at all -- that just means the defense is not on the field. I think the competition for us is to make our defense better. We don't really have a (head-to-head) competition. We just try to make as many plays as we can. I don't say, `Ha-ha, I made eight plays and you made none.' We just both try to do it.

Hawk: Honestly, we don't. I think we both know our roles in this defense, what we're doing, how things are supposed to work. So it's never felt like a rivalry between us.

Q: You have distinctly different approaches when it comes to the media. A.J., you hardly ever come into the locker room, while Nick, you seem to enjoy the spotlight.

Hawk: He loves it. And he'll admit it, too. I'm trying to come into the locker room (during media sessions) this year. I'm usually lifting when (reporters) are here. When I was at Ohio State, I figured I went there to play football. But now I'm starting to understand more. It took me a while to adjust to how available we are here. At Ohio State, Tuesdays the media would be out. It was like once a week. But when I came here, it was weird having everyone in the locker room. I'm fine with it. But that's why it's good to have a guy like Nick. He loves it. And he can have all the limelight he wants. And then you have Brady, the entertainer. So I can just hang back.

Barnett: I enjoy it at some level, yeah. He had a lot of spotlight as the fifth pick in the draft and playing at Ohio State. I was kind of under the radar. You guys had never heard of me before I got here. No one expected the Packers to draft me. Coming from a big school, he probably just got tired of it. Me, I'm only going to have this job once. And I enjoy talking to (the media). Hopefully one day I'll do it myself. So that's why I like doing it.

Q: Nick, are you more outgoing than he is?

Barnett: I wouldn't say that, because he's very outgoing with the other players and players' wives and all his friends. I think he's a very outgoing guy, and he has a lot of emotion, too. Mine is just a little more on display.

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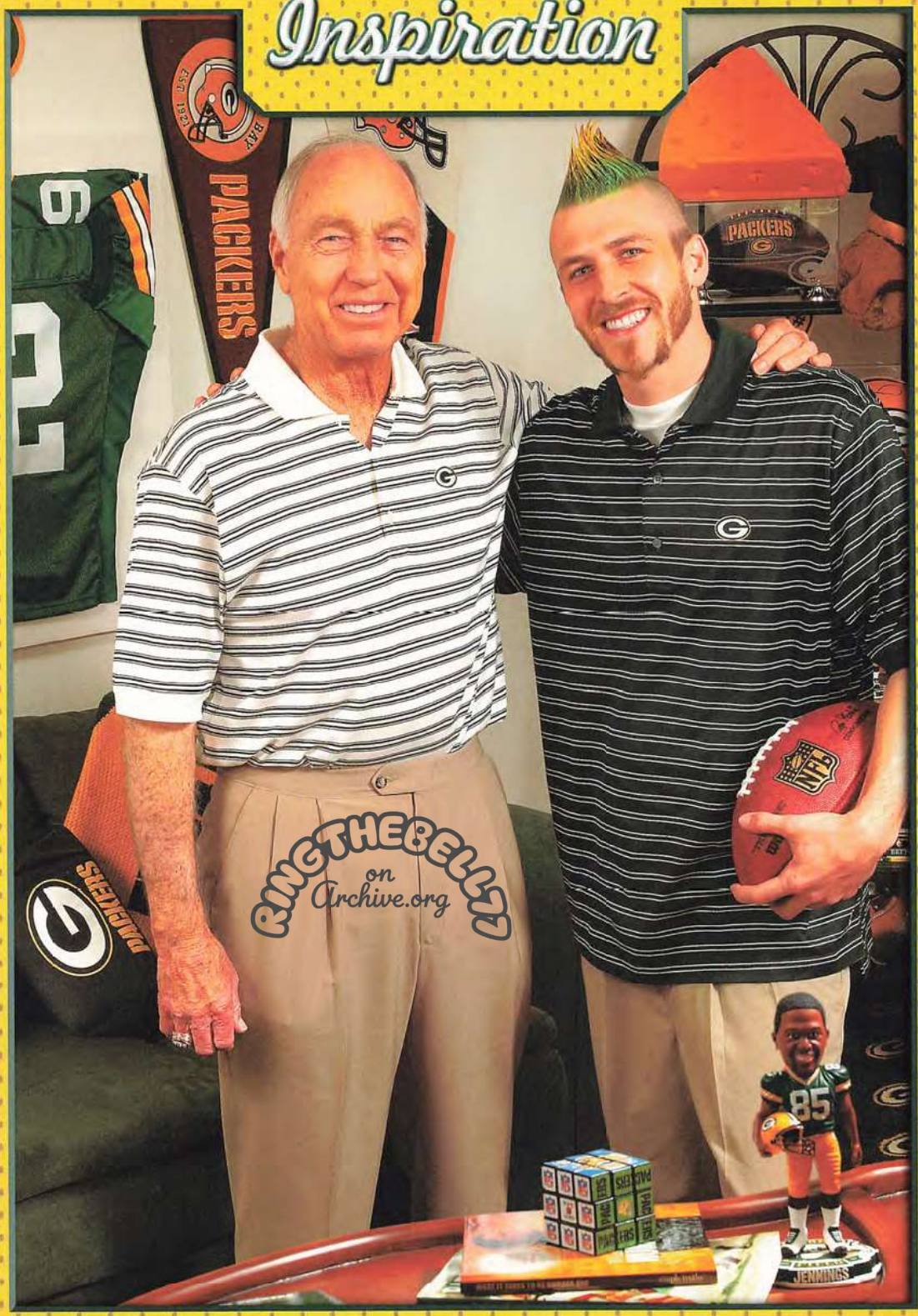

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HALL OF FAMERS TO BE?

A Top 10 List of Packers with Enshrinement Potential

By Cliff Christl

With 21 players and coaches in the Pro Football Hall of Fame, more than any team other than the Chicago Bears, the Green Bay Packers have been anything but slighted in the voting process. But as is the case with just about every other National Football League franchise, the Packers may also have some other candidates who at least come close to meeting Hall of Fame standards.

Maybe they simply belong in the hall of very good. Then again, maybe they deserve better and have been overlooked.

In fact, former general manager Ron Wolf believes the Packers lead the league in former players who belong in the Hall but aren't.

"I've got five that definitely should be and probably three more that deserve to be in there," said Wolf, who retired from the Packers following the 2000 season after building their 12th and most recent NFL championship team. "I sit and study. I don't have much to do anymore. But I sit down and jot down guys that I think deserve Hall of Fame consideration. And the Packers have more than anybody."

Wolf said the top five on his list, in order, would be tailback Cecil Isbell, safety Bobby Dillon, halfback Verne Lewellen, center Charley Brock and guard Gale Gillingham. Wolf also had guard Jerry Kramer, safety LeRoy Butler and end Lavvie Dilweg on his list.

While Wolf might be slightly biased having spent nine years as the franchise's GM, historian Bob Carroll said he agreed there might be at least four other former Packer greats who belong in the Hall. To be a senior nominee a player must be out of the game for 25 years or more. Carroll listed Dilweg first, followed by Kramer. He said the next two names on his list would be Lewellen and Dillon.

Carroll is considered perhaps the foremost pro football historian in the country. He is the founder and executive director of the Professional Football Researchers Association, and also was one of the two lead researchers and editors of *Total Football: The Official Encyclopedia of the National Football League.*

The Packers, of course, will have one additional Hall of Famer five years from now when Brett Favre becomes eligible. But whether any other ex-Packer has a shot remains to be seen. Butler is on the current ballot, but the team's other best candidates would have to be nominated by the Senior Committee.

Here's a look at 10 of them:

Lavvie Dilweg, end
Milwaukee Badgers, 1926
Packers, 1927-34

From 1926-31, Dilweg made just about every all-pro team possible. Back in the day, when only 11 players and two ends were picked for each team, Dilweg was chosen first-team 13 times and second-team twice on the 15 teams that were selected. He wasn't just a consensus all-pro during that six-year span, he was near unanimous. Plus, Dilweg was still a second-team choice in 1932 and '33.

During Dilweg's career, the *Green Bay Press-Gazette* probably chose the most credible of the all-pro teams. The paper selected a team from 1923-31 and again from 1933-35. Lest one believes that Dilweg had an advantage as a hometown player, the team was based on a poll of league coaches and managers, as well as sport writers.

From 1929-31, when the Packers won three straight NFL titles, Dilweg was one of the two most decorated players on the team, along with Hall of Fame guard Mike Michalske. Even Hall of Famers Cal Hubbard and Johnny "Blood" McNally didn't make as many all-pro teams as Dilweg. Years later, the Pro Football Hall of Fame selection committee also chose Dilweg as one of three ends on the all-decade team for the 1920s. The other two, George Halas and Guy Chamberlin, made the Hall of Fame more for what they accomplished as coaches than as players.

"Definitely," Carroll replied when he was asked if he thought Dilweg belonged in the Hall. "He was the best end of the 1920s. (Don) Hutson outshone everybody so they kind of forgot about Dilweg. But Dilweg had a long career for the day. Most of it, he was on the all-pro teams."

From 1929-31, the Packers were a remarkable 34-5-2 and won their championships based on the final standings. "Give him today's Super Bowl hype and they'd chisel his face on Mt. Rushmore," Carroll wrote of Dilweg.

Lewellen made every first-team on every all-pro team possible from 1927-29. The only other back to make all seven teams during that stretch was Hall of Famer Benny Friedman. Lewellen also was the Packers' leading scorer every year from 1926-30, which included their first two championship teams.

When he retired following the 1932 season, Lewellen ranked second in the NFL in all-time scoring to Paddy Driscoll, another Hall of Famer who played with both the Bears and Cardinals. Driscoll scored 402 points; Lewellen, 307. Lewellen also had intercepted 22 passes, tied for third all-time.

"I'd put him in too," said Carroll. "He was considered the best punter of his day and he was a terrific all-around player. He wasn't a very good passer, but he was a good runner, a good receiver. And as I said, he was considered the best punter of his day. And, at that time, punting was considered more important than it is today."

In fact, it often was the deciding factor. As a result, Carroll noted that teams often punted on early downs and out of short punt formation.

Legendary sportswriter Grantland Rice once wrote that "the title of greatest punter in pro football history should be shared by Lewellen and Sammy Baugh." Arthur Daley, former columnist for *The New York Times,* wrote of Lewellen: "A magnificent kicker with a sodden ball. His punts always sailed 60 or 70 yards."

Verne Lewellen, halfback & punter
Packers, 1924-32
New York Yankees, 1927

Maybe the case for Dunn isn't as strong as some of others, but to this day, he is one of only two quarterbacks in the 88-year history of the NFL to have led his team to three straight league championships. Dunn was the Packers' quarterback when they won three straight from 1929-31. At the time, the Packers used the Notre Dame box formation, but it was a variation of the one coach Curly Lambeau used later when the quarterback was primarily a blocking back. When Dunn played, he lined up close to the center, but slightly back and to the right, and would take snaps and throw the ball.

Dunn also was the quarterback when the Chicago Cardinals won the NFL title in 1925.

In his era, he was the second leading passer to Friedman. Friedman was credited with 7,468 yards; Dunn with 4,641, according to The Football Encyclopedia. Dunn also was listed second in touchdown passes with 48 compared to Friedman's 68.

"Not quite (a Hall of Famer)," said Carroll. "I'd put him in the hall of very good."

Red Dunn, quarterback
Milwaukee Badgers, 1924
Chicago Cardinals, 1925-26
Packers, 1927-31

Isbell played only five seasons, but in those five seasons, he received as many laurels as the great Sammy Baugh. Baugh entered the league a year before Isbell and was a consensus all-pro as a rookie. Over the next five seasons, Baugh and Isbell each made first-team on eight all-pro teams; Isbell made second-team on 11, while Baugh made nine. Isbell also played in four Pro All-Star Games, as the Pro Bowl was called then.

Eight games into Isbell's rookie year, Bears coach George Halas declared him better than teammate and future Hall of Famer Arnie Herber. "Arnie Herber is just a passer," said Halas. "... But this Isbell is a passer, kicker, runner and a line bucker... Green Bay's attack is three times more potent now than it has been in recent years and the answer is Isbell." Lambeau called Isbell the greatest passer in the history of game. "Cecil Isbell was the best, with Sid Luckman a close second and Sammy Baugh a long third," said Lambeau.

Isbell led the NFL in passing in both 1941 and '42, ahead of Baugh and Luckman. In 1942, Isbell became the first passer in the history of the league to throw for more than 2,000 yards in a season, and he also set a league record for touchdown passes with 24. Seven months later, he abruptly retired to become an assistant coach at Purdue.

Carroll said he wouldn't put Isbell in the same class as Arnie Weinmeister, Ernie Nevers and Gale Sayers, other Hall of Famers who had short-lived careers. "(Isbell) played only five years, and of those five only two were very outstanding, and they were war years," said Carroll. "So I'd say no, but a very good player."

The Hall of Fame selection committee chose Isbell as a quarterback on its all-decade team for the 1930s, along with Herber and Dutch Clark, both Hall of Famers.

Cecil Isbell, back
Packers, 1938-42

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LINCOLN
REACH HIGHER

Brock's career with the Packers overlapped that of Mel Hein and Bulldog Turner, widely regarded as the two greatest centers of the two-way era. In fact, Hein was one of two centers on the NFL's 75th Anniversary Team, along with Mike Webster.

Nevertheless, Brock fared well in all-pro voting. He was a consensus all-pro in 1945 in Hein's final season and when Turner was in the service. But Brock was chosen to one first team ahead of both Hein and Turner in 1940, and to one in 1946 ahead of Turner. Brock also earned a number of second-team berths behind one or the other. In fact, Alex Wojciechowiz, another center from that period, is in the Hall of Fame and played four more years than Brock. But Brock was named on 13 different all-pro teams; Wojciechowiz on only four.

A two-way player, Brock also intercepted 17 passes. Turner, Wojciechowiz and Brock were the three centers on the 1940s all-decade team.

"I don't know anything about him other than the fact he played at the same time as Mel Hein and Mel Hein was probably the greatest Giant of all time," said Wolf. "And for Brock to play the same position and to be recognized five times as an all-pro player, he must have been outstanding."

Charley Brock, center
Packers, 1939-47

Dillon is the Packers' all-time interception leader with 52. He also was essentially a unanimous all-pro pick from 1955-58. During those four seasons, he made every all-pro or NFL Western Conference team that there was except for one, and he was second-team on that one. Add one more first-team selection in 1954 and that gives Dillon 20 over his career. Among the other Hall of Fame safeties from his era, only Jack Christiansen made first-team all-pro on more teams. Yale Lary made 16 over 11 seasons; and Emlen Tunnell, 13 over 14 seasons. Dillon also played in four Pro Bowls.

Even in 1958, when the Packers went 1-10-1, Dillon made first-team on all five of the all-pro teams chosen that year.

But that's Dillon's bane. He played on only one winning team and that was in his last season.

"Look what he did," said Wolf. "Seven years he made all-pro, five on a first-team."

Carroll said he'd rank Jack Butler, who played for Pittsburgh, a notch ahead of Dillon. Their careers paralleled and Butler was a unanimous all-pro in 1957 and '58, and a consensus all-pro in '59. But those were his only all-pro years.

"I'd want to see Butler go in before Dillon, but they probably are both deserving," said Carroll.

Bobby Dillon, safety
Packers, 1952-59

Kramer has been a finalist in the Hall of Fame voting 10 times, more than any other player who hasn't been inducted. He was the senior nominee in 1997, one of only three senior nominees in the last 15 years to be denied selection.

In 1969, Kramer also was the only guard selected on the NFL's 50th Anniversary Team, and he's the only one of 16 players on that team not in the Hall. He also was one of three guards on the 1960s all-decade team.

Kramer was a consensus all-pro four times and played in three Pro Bowls. Guard Gene Hickerson, who entered the league the same year as Kramer and played five more years, was inducted into the Hall as a senior nominee a year ago. And Hickerson was a consensus all-pro from 1967-69, but he had never made a first team prior to that. By then, Kramer had been named to 14 different first teams. Moreover, in '67, Kramer made three more.

Wolf said he was as puzzled as anyone as to why Kramer hasn't been inducted, especially in view of his selection on the 50th Anniversary Team. "I don't know how you avoid that," said Wolf.

But apparently the voting was so splintered at guard that Kramer made the team with very few votes. Moreover, 10 players from the Lombardi Era, plus Vince Lombardi, already are in the Hall. In the eyes of some voters that might be too many from one team. Another knock against Kramer has been that he often struggled against two of the best defensive tackles of his day, Alex Karras and Merlin Olsen.

Jerry Kramer, guard
Packers, 1958-68

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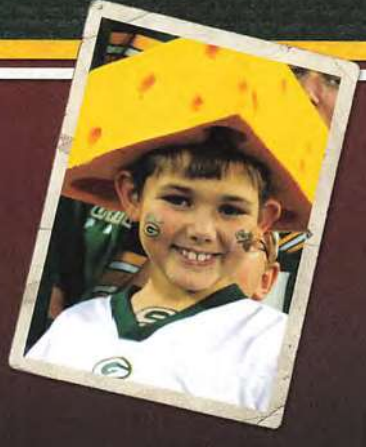


Perhaps it also hurts Kramer that some ex-Packers from that period rank Gale Gillingham the best guard in team history, if not the best offensive lineman. Wolf said he heard that from people when he got to Green Bay in 1992.

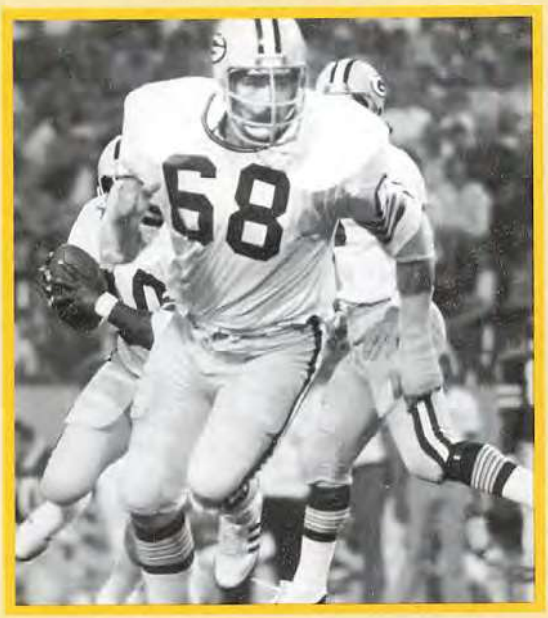
Dave Hanner, who spent 44 years with the Packers as a player, coach and scout, said, "(Gillingham) was the best lineman Green Bay ever had," said Hanner. "I'll bet if you ask 90 percent on the club who played years ago, they'd tell you the same thing. He was so gosh darn strong and a pretty good athlete."

Four years ago, Hall of Famer Bob Lilly, one of three defensive tackles on the NFL's 75th Anniversary Team, ranked Gillingham second behind Hall of Famer Tom Mack among the guards that he faced during his 14-year career; and Lilly said he chose Mack over Gillingham largely because he played against him more. Lilly rated Gillingham ahead of Hall of Famer Jim Parker and eight-time Hall of Fame finalist Bob Kuechenberg.

However, Gillingham started for only one year under Lombardi before playing on mostly losing teams, he also played at a time when there were a number of Hall of Fame guards in the league: Mack, Larry Little, Gene Upshaw, even John Hannah and Joe DeLamielleure at the end. And, in 1972, after an all-pro season, Gillingham was switched to defensive tackle by former coach Dan Devine, blew out his knee and was never quite as dominant again.

Still, Gillingham was named to five Pro Bowls and made first-team all-pro in four different seasons.

Gale Gillingham, guard
Packers, 1966-74, '76



Robinson was another physically dominant player for about four, five years before rupturing his Achilles tendon four games into the 1970 season. He had been a consensus all-pro over the previous three seasons and had played in three Pro Bowls. He had been a starter on three straight NFL championship teams under Lombardi and had made the key defensive play in the 1966 title game at Dallas.

"He was a heck of a player," said Hanner, who played with the Packers from 1952-64 and coached from 1965-79 and again in '82. "I know people think I'm crazy, but if I had to pick between (Ray) Nitschke and Dave Robinson, I'd take Dave Robinson. He was tougher against the tight end than anybody. Dave Robinson would make a lot of plays."

Prior to his injury, Robinson had completely overshadowed Hall of Famer Dave Wilcox, who entered the league one year later. But Wilcox had more staying power and was virtually a unanimous all-pro from 1971-'73.

Traded to Washington in 1973, Robinson started for two more years on playoff teams coached by George Allen. Robinson finished his career with 27 interceptions.

"I used to think he belonged in the Hall of Fame," said Carroll. "Now, I believe he belongs in the hall of very good just because there are so many good players. If they put him in, I won't be offended. But I don't think he'll make it."

Dave Robinson, linebacker
Packers, 1963-72
Washington Redskins, 1973-74

Butler's name has appeared on the Hall of Fame ballot the past two years, but he has yet to become a finalist. He played in four Pro Bowls. He was a first-team *Associated Press* all-pro four times. And he was one of four safeties chosen to the 1990s all-decade team.

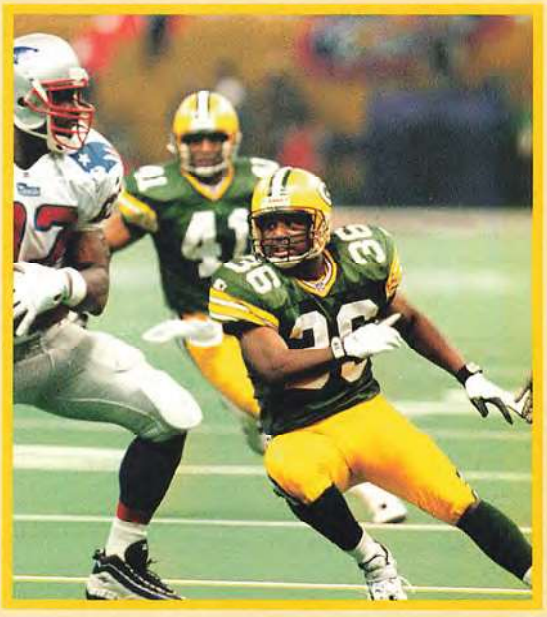
"I think, again, he deserves to be in there," said Wolf. "He was a dominant player in his era. That team that LeRoy Butler played for won 92 games. That's a lot of games. But I'm not sure he's better than those other guys like Bobby Dillon."

What are the chances of all 10 of those former Packers making the Hall? In truth, there is no chance. But that doesn't necessarily mean they aren't deserving.

"I'll say this – even Baby Ray – I don't think you've named anybody who would be an insult if they went in the Hall of Fame," said Carroll. Ray, by the way, played tackle for the Packers from 1938-48 and received first- or second-team all-pro recognition in four different years.

Then, too, there is Wolf, who spent 38 years in the game and resurrected a Green Bay franchise that some thought was doomed to be mediocre for eternity. His name has appeared on the Hall of Fame ballot as a contributor every year since 2002, although he has yet to become a finalist.

LeRoy Butler, safety
Packers, 1990-'01



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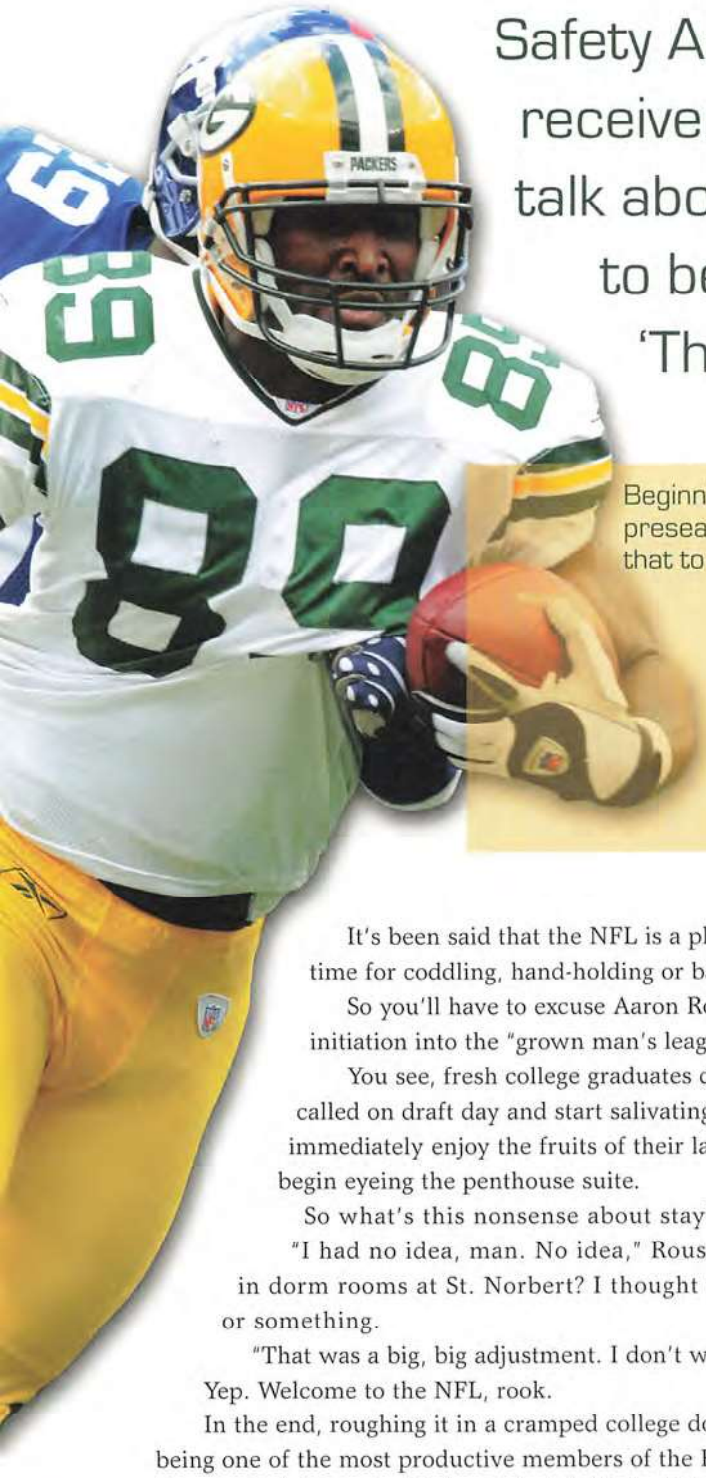
MY ROOKIE YEAR

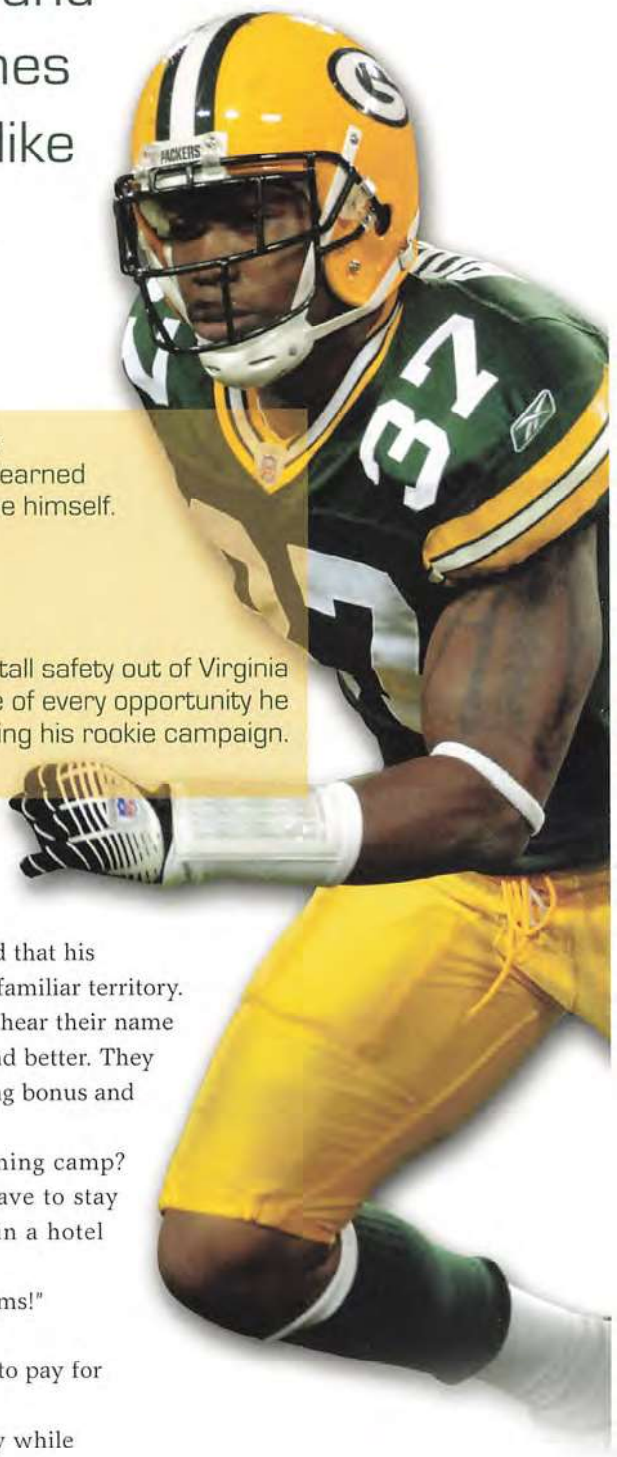
By Tom Rozwadowski - Green Bay Press-Gazette

Safety Aaron Rouse and receiver James Jones talk about what it's like to be a rookie in 'The League.'

Beginning his first season with a preseason bang, **James Jones** learned that to succeed, he just had to be himself.

Aaron Rouse, the tall safety out of Virginia Tech, took advantage of every opportunity he received during his rookie campaign.





It's been said that the NFL is a place for grown men. No time for coddling, hand-holding or babysitting.

So you'll have to excuse Aaron Rouse if he was a bit surprised that his initiation into the "grown man's league" put him right back into familiar territory.

You see, fresh college graduates don't know any better. They hear their name called on draft day and start salivating at the prospect of bigger and better. They immediately enjoy the fruits of their labor thanks to a cushy signing bonus and begin eyeing the penthouse suite.

So what's this nonsense about staying in dorm rooms for training camp?

"I had no idea, man. No idea," Rouse said with a laugh. "We have to stay in dorm rooms at St. Norbert? I thought they were going to put us in a hotel or something.

"That was a big, big adjustment. I don't want to stay in no college dorms!"

Yep. Welcome to the NFL, rook.

In the end, roughing it in a cramped college dorm room was a small price to pay for being one of the most productive members of the Packers' 2007 draft class.

Rouse, a third-round pick from Virginia Tech, bided his time as a backup safety while

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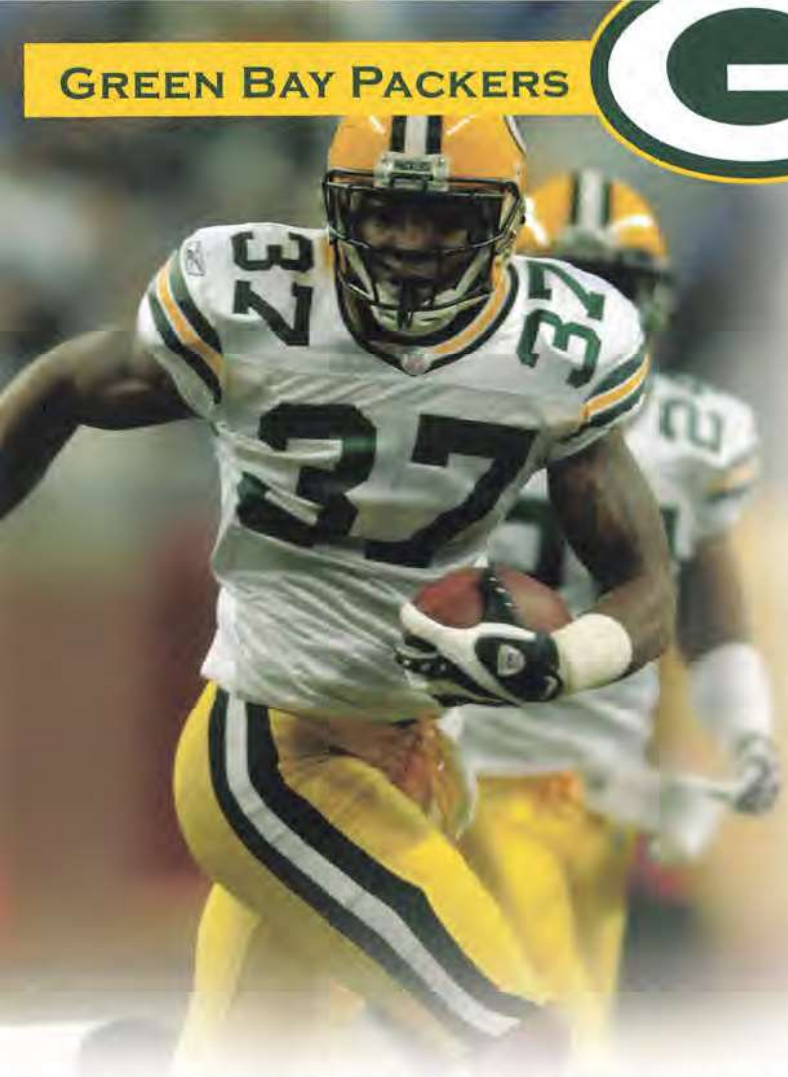

keeping his nose in the playbook and contributing on special teams. But in the hard-hitting NFL, fortunes can change instantaneously.

The training wheels officially came off when Rouse saw his most significant playing time of the season after starter Nick Collins went down with a knee injury during the third quarter of the Packers-Kansas City Chiefs game in Week 9. Rouse held his own in a tight 33-22 win; the fill-in duty serving as a nice appetizer. The main course came a week later with a first-ever start against rookie dynamo Adrian Peterson and the Minnesota Vikings – an emphatic 34-0 shutout that causes the hulking 6-foot-4, 223-pound safety to beam with pride.

"Al Harris, the guys, you know, they said, 'You're not a rookie anymore. You had a great game.' To be able to do that, it brought a lot of confidence."

Confidence aside, he admits that his first season brought its share of star-struck moments – most notably when he realized he was sharing a row of lockers with his childhood idol, four-time Pro Bowl cornerback Charles Woodson.

"Playing with guys like that. Wow. The pressure is big, but you also have a job to perform. My biggest thing once I got in was that I didn't want to go out there and be a letdown. There's no difference between me and those guys. They might be, 'Hey, he's a rookie' at first, but I want to go out there and compete."

After that "tremendous blessing," he found training camp to be a quick adjustment thanks to Green Bay's college-style atmosphere, one Rouse said is comparable to Blacksburg, Va. But while he felt at home in his new, adopted city once the veterans started filing in, the intensity picked up considerably.

He began to set small goals – working harder in the weight room, gaining a solid grasp of the defensive calls – all aimed at showing the coaching staff that "rookie mistakes" weren't going to be part of his vocabulary.

While brimming with natural confidence, Rouse said he doesn't buy into the idea that it's better to become slowly acclimated to your surroundings by taking notes on the sidelines. He wanted to be a starter on day one.

"I'm a guy who likes to be in there. I believe experience is the best teacher. Football comes easy to me. I've been playing this game since I was a little kid.

"But I also am willing to do anything, play my role. And that's what I did. I just want to be in the fight. I just want to compete."

Many highlights ensued. His first interception came against Vinny Testaverde in a 31-17 blowout against the Carolina Panthers. Then another pick to set up a Greg Jennings touchdown in a nationally-televised Thanksgiving Day showcase against the division rival Detroit Lions.

That he was making contributions on an eventual 14-win team made all the difference as Rouse continued to mature as a player. But as overwhelming as it was at times, Rouse said he never lost sight of the bigger picture, particularly in the playoffs.

"I made sure to think about where I was and what I was doing, especially during the Seattle game. Only a handful of teams earn that right. And for it to be a whiteout where you could barely see your hand in front of your face? That's what kids dream about. It really felt like I was playing with my brothers in the snow. Except it was just so much bigger, you know? It really felt surreal."

High expectations are the common theme as Rouse looks ahead to his second season, one without that inconvenient rookie tag -- not to mention meal-gathering duties for secondary vets -- slapped onto 2008 newcomers like Pat Lee. It's also why, somewhat surprisingly, Rouse stops short of saying his rookie campaign was a success.

"I have to say no, because I wanted to come in and be a starter right away. That didn't happen.

"But I played a role on the team. I did what I was asked to do. I didn't know what to expect coming in, and I got a lot of experience. But I have a lot of work to do before I'm happy with where I'm at."

To fully understand James Jones' rookie season is to move beyond the player and examine the circumstances that

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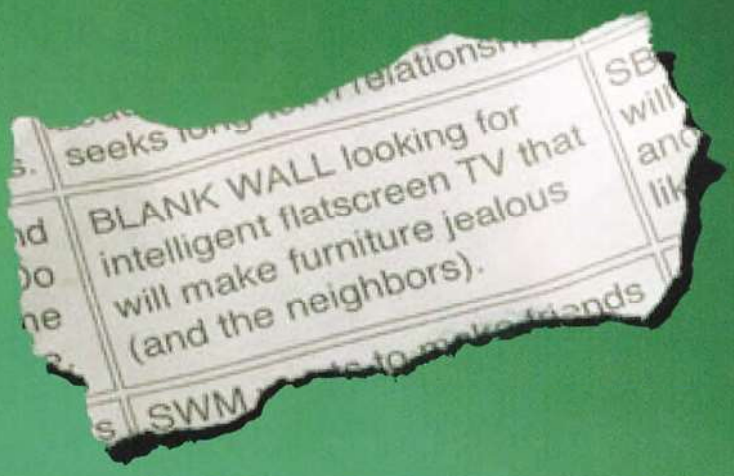

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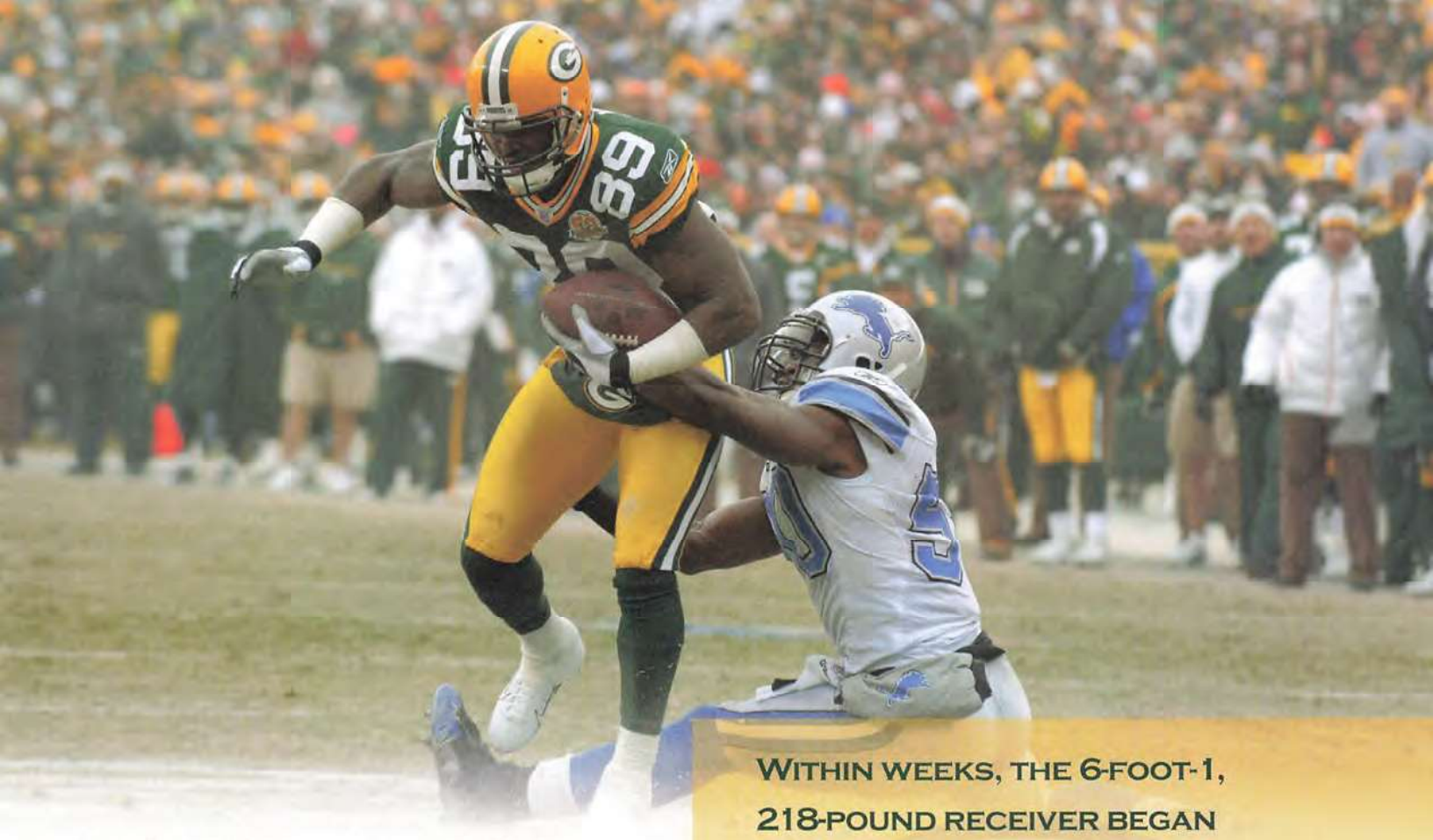

led to his arrival in a Green Bay Packers uniform.

Drafted in the third round out of San Jose State, Jones faced the type of scrutiny in his first NFL training camp usually reserved for high-profile picks accustomed to heavy media attention. How the "slow-footed" Jones was rated as no better than a seventh-round pick by most draft publications. How General Manager Ted Thompson's free-agent futility, and subsequent reliance on unproven players like Jones, was the main reason Brett Favre would never receive the Super Bowl sendoff he deserved as his Hall of Fame career wound down.

"All I did was take that stuff as motivation. And I still do that now," Jones said. "I know the player I am, and what I'm capable of doing."

Within weeks, the 6-foot-1, 218-pound receiver began turning heads with impressive catch after catch in practice and the preseason, his soft hands and imposing stature earning comparisons to one of the best Packers wide receivers of all-time, Sterling Sharpe.

But just as Jones chose to ignore his detractors, he also didn't buy into the burgeoning hype. Under the tutelage of Donald Driver and Greg Jennings, the latter one of his best friends on the team, Jones found his comfort zone early and tried to stay level-headed.

"I knew coming in here that all the pressure was off me. I told myself, 'Just perform. Don't come in here and be Randy Moss or Terrell Owens. Just be James Jones.' When plays came my way, I needed to make them."

With all the extra-curriculars that surrounded Jones' arrival to the team, his stoic demeanor kept surprises of a personal nature safely hidden. Unbeknownst to most on the team, Jones' mother, Janet, was sent to a California prison two weeks after her baby boy's name was called during the NFL draft – the crowning achievement Jones had waited his whole life for.

According to Jones, a family member had used his mother's name as an alias for several years while committing multiple crimes. Before the identity mix-up could properly be resolved, Janet took the rap, causing her to miss James' first NFL game – a sobering reality that's still tough to accept. "I've been through so many things in my life, it was another thing that I had to keep a positive attitude about," said Jones, who while growing up in California, had a drug-addled father in prison, and along with his mother, shuffled in and out of homeless shelters.

WITHIN WEEKS, THE 6-FOOT-1, 218-POUND RECEIVER BEGAN TURNING HEADS WITH IMPRESSIVE CATCH AFTER CATCH IN PRACTICE AND THE PRESEASON, HIS SOFT HANDS AND IMPOSING STATURE EARNING COMPARISONS TO ONE OF THE BEST PACKERS WIDE RECEIVERS OF ALL-TIME, STERLING SHARPE.

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"But that one hurt. Because as much as my mom had been through to get to this point, as much as she provided to help me reach this point, only two weeks after I was drafted, she was in jail. She missed my first NFL game, and that's something we always had talked about. How she'd be there. And she couldn't be there in the stands. That really hurt."

Highs and lows also made their way on the field, most notably during two nationally televised night games against highly touted, star-studded defenses. First came the bad – a 27-20 loss, the Packers first of the season, to the Chicago Bears at Lambeau Field. During the Week 5 meltdown, Jones fumbled twice on back-to-back possessions, the first particularly devastating as the Packers were driving inside the Bears' 10-yard line.

It was a hard lesson to learn on the big stage, Jones said. And the persistent questions and doubts that followed gave the reticent receiver a glimpse at how fast the switch can flip in the NFL.

"Once I fumbled, I put it past me. I've been through too many good things in my life to worry about two fumbles. Yes, they were mistakes. But after the game, they were behind me. But man, so many people kept asking me about those fumbles. And I was just like, 'OK, it happened. Let's move on.'"

Jones said he also learned a lot about his teammates following the disappointing performance. On the sidelines, several players approached him to say, 'Don't worry. We'll get it back' – a gesture that for the first time since donning the green and gold, let Jones know that even as a rookie, he was contributing. In essence, Jones saw it as a sign that the team cared enough to let him know he shouldn't have to carry the burden alone.

As it goes in the topsy-turvy NFL, redemption came three weeks later against the Denver Broncos in a highly anticipated *Monday Night Football* matchup at INVESCO Field. In the first quarter, Jones torched Pro Bowl cornerback Champ Bailey along the right sideline before cutting back inside to score a scintillating 79-yard touchdown – a play Jones said was the individual highlight of his rookie season.

"The main thing about that game was how everybody talked, all the media, about how you better take James and Greg off your fantasy teams because they're not gonna do anything this week (against Bailey and fellow corner, Dre Bly.) That's one of those things that stood out to me and Greg, you know, because no one else knows what's going on at practice. Being a rookie, your first Monday night game, and to go almost 80 yards against one of the best corners in the NFL ... that's something you get to tell your kids down the road."

It's why Jones repeats his personal mantra – "Just be James Jones" – as a way to affirm how lucky he is to be in the NFL. His humble roots have kept him in check all these years, and even if the road is still littered with its share of personal stumbling blocks, Jones knows life has been worse. He only needs to look into his mother's weary eyes to know that much.

"Knowing how I grew up, yeah, getting this shot makes me realize how blessed I am. So if I'm on the practice field and we have to run one more play, I'm not going to complain. I just think about my friends and how much they wish they could put a helmet on one time. And here I get to do it every day."

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FRANK WINTERS & GILBERT BROWN

Packers Hall of Fame 2008 Inductees

By Martin Hendricks

Their style of play wasn't glamorous. They didn't accumulate eye-popping statistics during their Green Bay careers. And they weren't marquee names in the National Football League.

But the two former linemen who will be inducted into the Packers Hall of Fame in July were key performers and anchors on the team's Super Bowl XXXI and XXXII teams.

Frank Winters and Gilbert Brown were blue-collar, team-oriented players, whose importance to the Packers went beyond image and numbers.

Winters, a fiery center, protected quarterback Brett Favre and brought a toughness and nasty edge as the leader of the offensive line from 1992-2002. Brown, a gregarious nose tackle and fan favorite from 1993-2003 (sans 2000), was a run-stuffing specialist on a defensive line that ranked among the NFL's elite in the mid-1990s.

"Being inducted in the Packers Hall of Fame is a tremendous honor for both of them," said Ron Wolf, former Green Bay general manager. "Frank was such a vital part of what we did offensively, and he really was a tough-guy type who really grew up with us, becoming a Pro Bowl player. He was our best Plan B pickup. Gilbert was such a force in the middle of our defense and turned out to be a pretty darn good investment for 100 bucks."

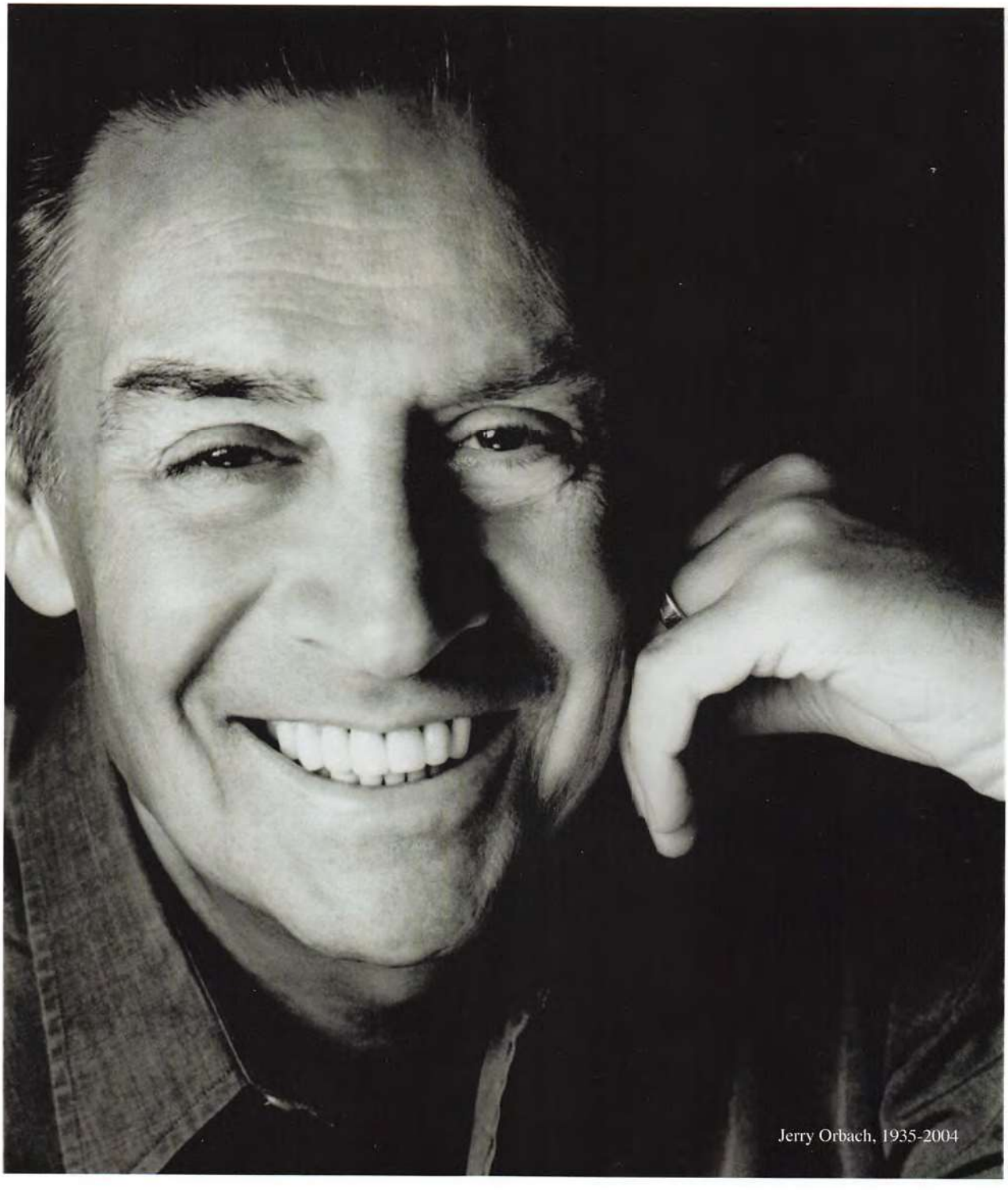
Wolf is looking forward to attending the Hall of Fame induction banquet.

"The good Lord willing, and if the creek doesn't rise, I'll be there," he said. "It's nice to see guys like Frank and Gilbert get rewarded for their dedication and contributions. They rightfully will join the legendary players of the franchise in the Packers Hall of Fame."

Brown, who was one of the final cuts by Minnesota in the Vikings' 1993 training camp, was signed off the waiver wire by Wolf for $100.

"It's unbelievable and a great honor," Brown said. "I joke and tell people that someone really messed up with me getting in the Hall of Fame. To be on the wall with guys like Paul Hornung, Bart Starr, and all the great Packers, all I can say is I'm just very appreciative.

"And to go in with my teammate, Frank Winters, is special. Frankie was one of the guys that helped get my career going. I went against him every day in practice. So



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GILBERT BROWN
COLLEGE: UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
PACKERS TENURE: 1993-99, 2001-2003
CAREER HIGHLIGHTS: KEY DEFENSIVE MEMBER OF PACKERS' 1996 AND 1997 SUPER BOWL TEAMS. TOTALED A CAREER-HIGH 56 TACKLES IN 1996. ONE OF ONLY FOUR TRUE DEFENSIVE LINEMEN TO PLAY 10 OR MORE SEASONS FOR PACKERS. VOTED "ED BLOCK COURAGE AWARD" WINNER AFTER 2003 SEASON.
OTHER TEAMS: NONE
JERSEY NUMBER: 93
RESIDENCE: DETROIT, MICH.
OCCUPATION: BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR FOR THE MILWAUKEE MILE.

when you face the best in practice, whoever I faced Sunday was like tapioca pudding. Fritz Shurmur, our defensive coordinator, meant the world to me. He knew it all started with us up front. He made me, and our defense, want to go out and put it all on the line.

"I was the guy getting yelled at for my weight and all the Gilbert Burgers I ate, but Fritz and my teammates knew on third-and-one that they could count on me."

Winters was a reliable performer who was signed as a Plan B free agent from Kansas City in 1992.

"As a kid, you see the clips and hear the names of the great Packers like McGee, Starr, and Hornung," Winters said. "Then as an offensive linemen coming here, you hear about the great linemen like Jim Ringo, Jerry Kramer, and Forrest Gregg. To be part of this franchise and the Hall of Fame with its great tradition is really an honor.

"I'm a pretty simple guy and individual accolades never meant much to me as a player. My approach was the team is the most important thing, and I went out every Sunday and played hard. I loved having the opportunity to play with great teammates and laying it all on the line to win championships."

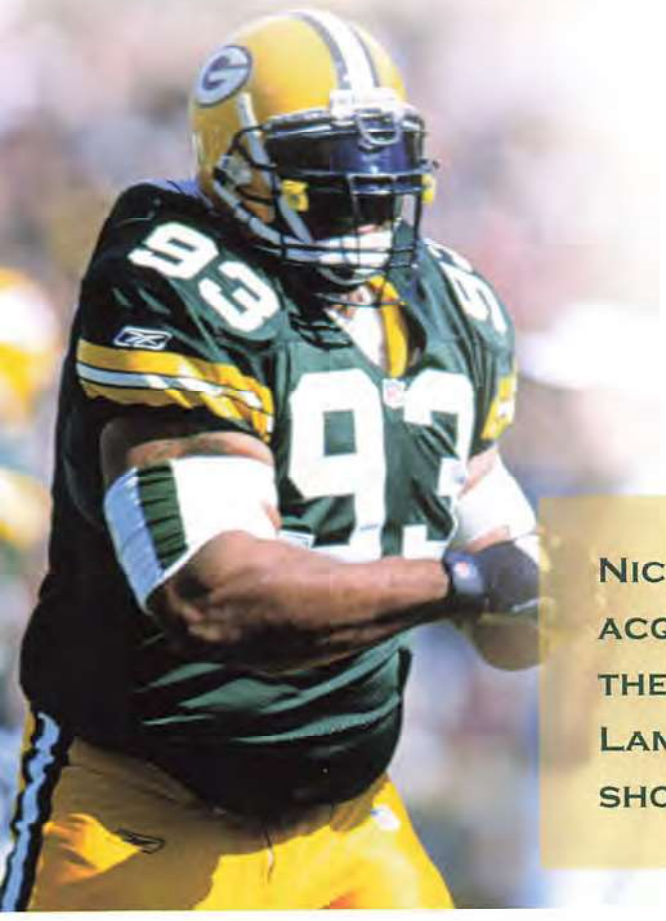
The pinnacle of their careers was bringing home the Vince Lombardi Trophy to Green Bay by virtue of the Packers' 35-21 victory over New England in Super Bowl XXXI.

"Winning the Super Bowl was a great accomplishment -- playing with all the great guys like Reggie White, Brett Favre, LeRoy Butler, and everybody," Brown said. "But I just really enjoyed playing in Green Bay, because it felt like being in a college town with all the fan support."

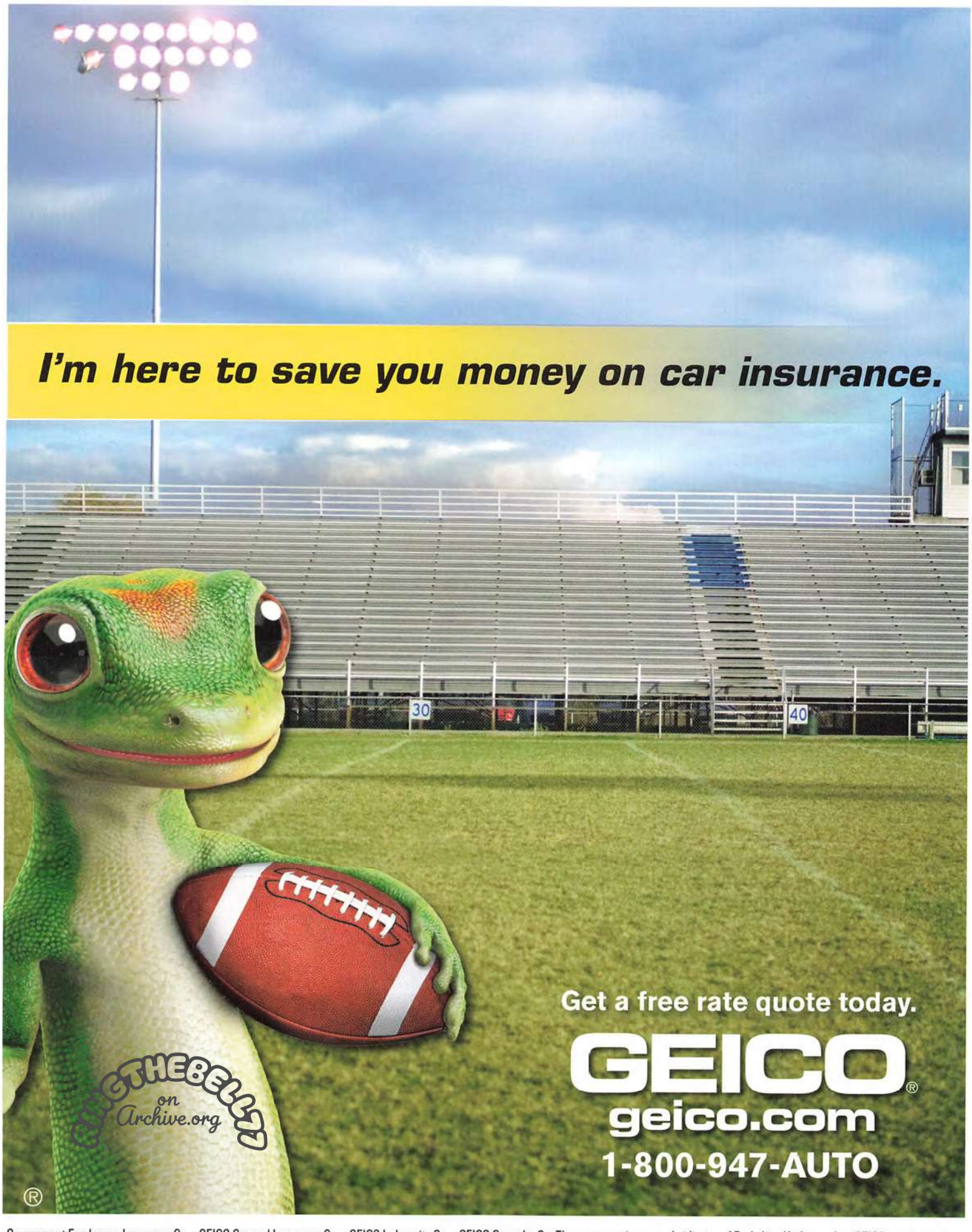
Brown enjoyed a special connection with Green Bay fans.

Nicknamed the "Gravedigger," a moniker he acquired during his collegiate career at the University of Kansas, Brown ignited the Lambeau Field crowd with his celebratory shoveling routine after a big tackle. In his prime, the imposing 6-foot-2, 350-plus pound Brown, with the shaded helmet visor and overflowing belly, tied up two offensive linemen, allowing his teammates to make plays.

A defensive stalwart on the Packers' Super Bowl teams of 1996-97, he recorded a career-high 56 tackles in 1996. Brown, who was out of football in 2000 but worked himself



NICKNAMED THE "GRAVEDIGGER," A MONIKER HE ACQUIRED DURING HIS COLLEGIATE CAREER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS, BROWN IGNITED THE LAMBEAU FIELD CROWD WITH HIS CELEBRATORY SHOVELING ROUTINE AFTER A BIG TACKLE.



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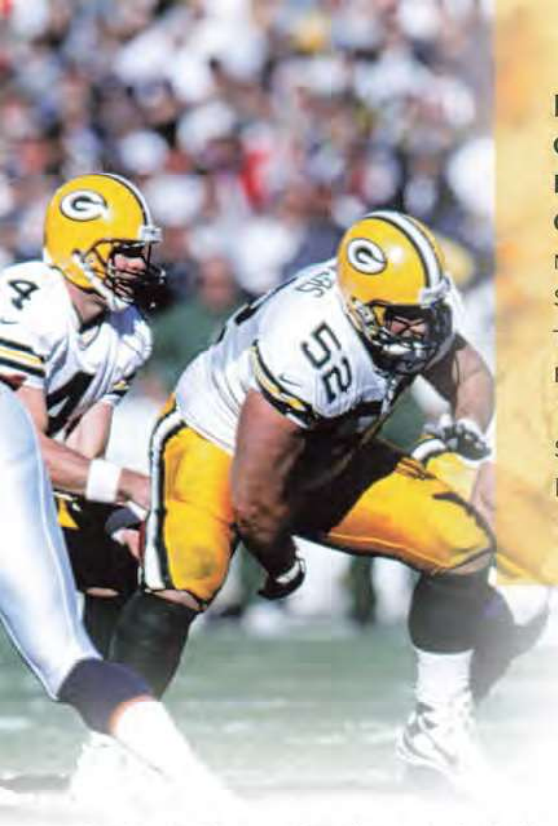


FRANK WINTERS
COLLEGE: WESTERN ILLINOIS
PACKERS TENURE: 1992-2002
CAREER HIGHLIGHTS: KEY MEMBER OF OFFENSIVE LINE ON SUPER BOWL CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM, 1996. PLAYED IN 156 REGULAR SEASON GAMES IN 11-YEAR PACKERS' CAREER. SELECTED TO PRO BOWL, 1996. NAMED ALL-PRO BY *USA TODAY*, 1999.
OTHER TEAMS: CLEVELAND, 1987-88; NEW YORK GIANTS, 1989; KANSAS CITY CHIEFS, 1990-91.
JERSEY NUMBER: 52
RESIDENCE: OVERLAND PARK, KAN.
OCCUPATION: SEMI-RETIRED. COACHES VARSITY FOOTBALL AT BLUE VALLEY NORTH HIGH SCHOOL, OVERLAND PARK.

back into shape and on the roster in 2001, retired in 2003 after a 10-year career in Green Bay. In his last season, he started 14 of 16 games and played with a ruptured right bicep since the preseason.

Suffering a season-ending injury for most players, Brown was an inspiration to his teammates, who voted him a playoff captain and the "Ed Block Courage Award" winner for his fortitude and commitment.

Brown is one of only four true defensive linemen to play 10 seasons or more for the Packers, joining Dave Hanner (1952-64), Henry Jordan (1959-69) and Ezra Johnson (1977-87).

Winters' NFL career path was not an easy one, with stints in Cleveland, New York (Giants), and Kansas City before he arrived in Green Bay.

The 6-foot-3, 305-pound center/guard's primary role that first season as a Packer was as a long-snapper, receiving playing time only in kicking situations or to spell an offensive lineman.

Winters took full advantage of additional playing time due to injuries in 1993, and he secured the starting center job in 1994 on a rising Packers' squad that was poised to unseat Dallas and San Francisco for NFC supremacy.

1996 would bring a Super Bowl title and Pro Bowl acclaim. However, Winters' season was marred by his older brother John's unexpected death just over a week before Super Bowl XXXI in New Orleans.

Winters flew home to his native New Jersey, facing the "toughest three days of my life." In the blinding limelight of the Super Bowl, he grieved and prepared for the World Championship game he always hoped to participate in.

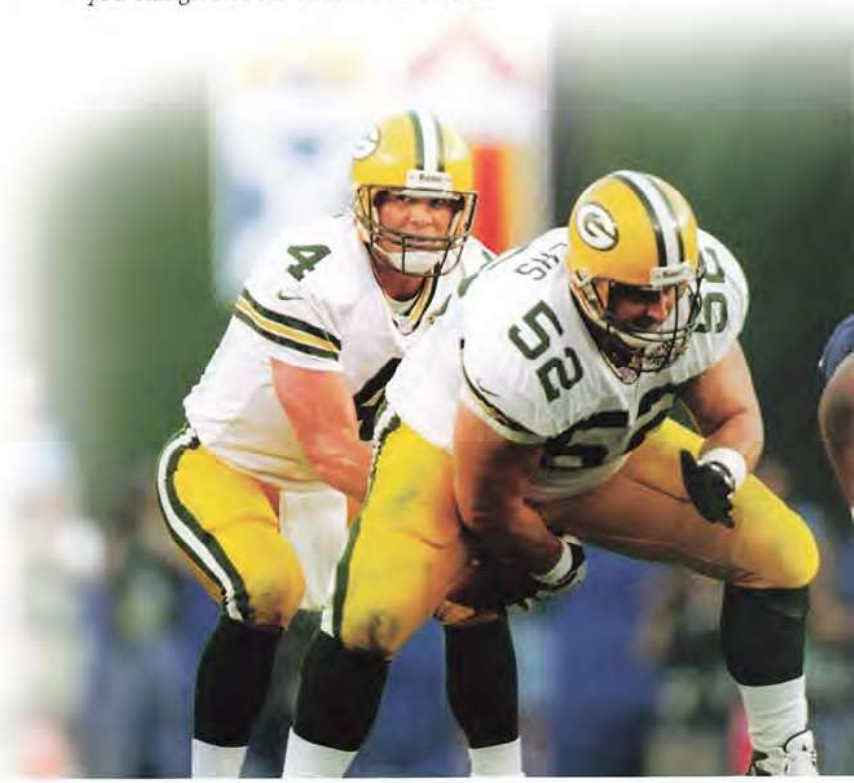
"When I look back now, that was a tough time," Winters said. "First, we had the great joy of getting to a Super Bowl after all those years in the league. Then came the tragedy. The closeness of our team, and having my family come down to the Super Bowl really helped a lot, battling through it.

"When the Super Bowl was over, when everything died down, then I had the chance to go through the grieving process and reflect on all the great moments with my brother."

Winters always had a tough-guy reputation, according to Wolf.

"Frank has a big-time temper and is a legitimate tough guy," Wolf said. "He made himself into a Pro Bowl player. He got the opportunity and took advantage of it. He was at every meeting, every practice, every game.

"One year (1994), he took every offensive snap, from the preseason through the regular season due to injuries we had. Frank was dependable - and that's the greatest compliment you can give to an offensive lineman."



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Ryan Grant can still hear that same comforting voice.
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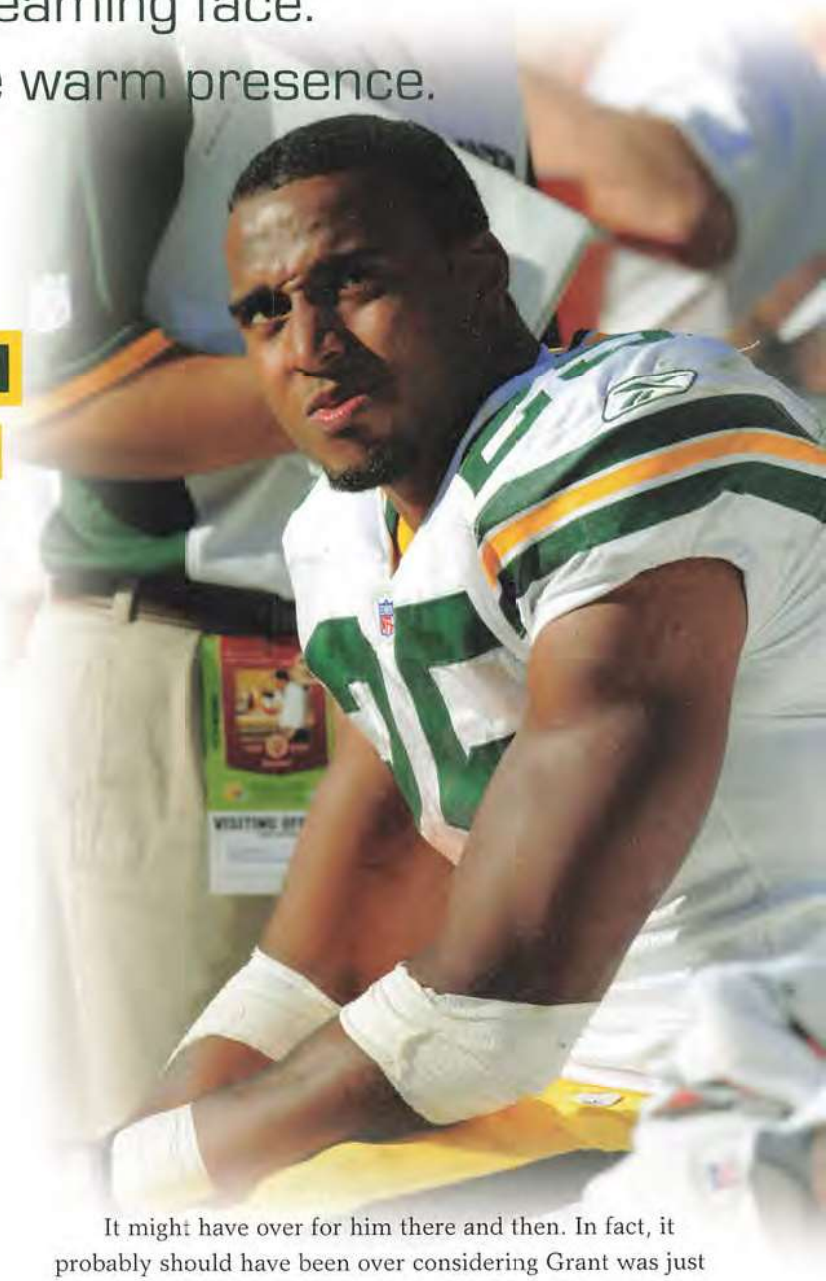
RYAN GRANT

By Peter Jackel - Racine Journal Times



And the young man who may have been most responsible for the Packers' dramatic resurgence last season isn't going to let any of it get away from him.

It was a such cold reality when Percy Gallwey, Grant's beloved grandfather, died of cancer Aug. 9, 2007, just weeks before Ryan pulled on Packers' a jersey for the first time and started running with a football like Gramps always knew he could. Nevertheless, Grant just knew Grandpa Percy spiritually made the move with him from New York to Green Bay, pushing him from someone who was a long-shot solution for a pressing issue into a savior.

"Now he's got the best seat in the house," Grant said. "He got a chance to see me play every game from the best seat. I dedicated the year to him. I definitely felt he was running with me out there."

Grandpa Percy's inspiration actually helps explain quite a lot when it comes to Ryan Brett Gallwey-Grant, because this is a kid who beat enormous odds.

He was there for his grandson when Grant was just another no-name listed in tiny agate type under transactions in your sports section after getting released as an undrafted rookie by the New York Giants in September 2005 and then re-signed to the practice squad a day later.

And he was there in May 2006, when Grant nearly bled to death after trying to brace himself after accidentally getting knocked into by someone at a nightclub. Grant's left arm went through several champagne glasses, severing an artery, a tendon and the ulnar nerve in his left arm, forcing the Giants to place him on the non-football injury list for the 2006 season.

It might have over for him there and then. In fact, it probably should have been over considering Grant was just another former free agent on a talented team less than two years away from winning the Super Bowl, and who had never come close to touching a football in a regular-season game.

So how on earth did this untested kid, acquired from the Giants for a sixth-round draft choice Sept. 1, bust loose for 956 yards in a season that featured just seven starts? How did he finish second only to San Diego Chargers great LaDainian Tomlinson for most yards in the league over the last 10 weeks of the season (929)? And how did he set a Packers' postseason record for most rushing yards (201) in a game?

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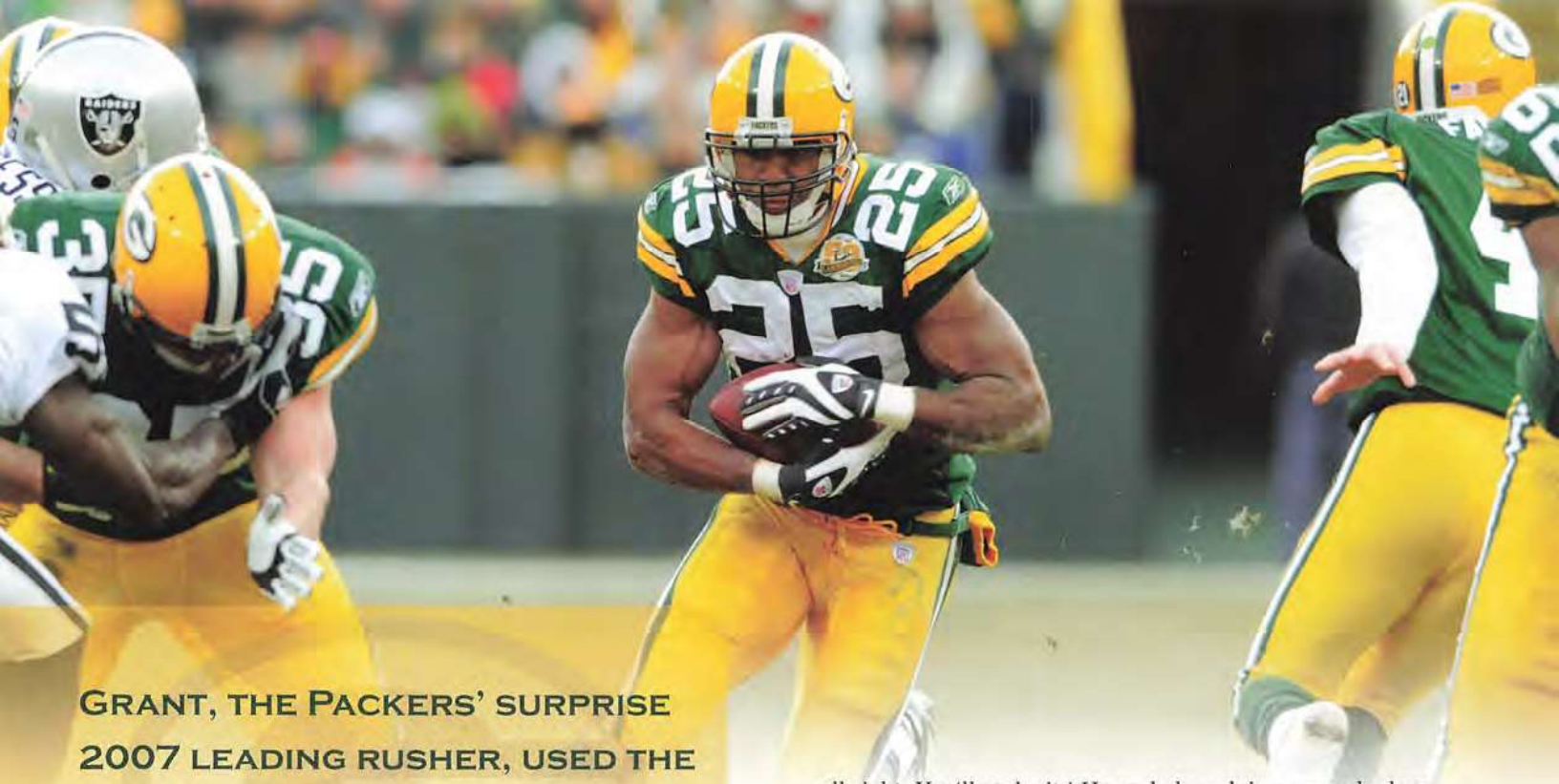


GRANT, THE PACKERS' SURPRISE 2007 LEADING RUSHER, USED THE PASSING OF HIS GRANDFATHER AS INSPIRATION TO SUCCEED.

The answer is talent that was energized by willpower. And that willpower was largely inspired by his late great grandfather, a gangly gentleman who loved to laugh and cherished every moment he had with his talented grandson. So much did Gallwey love him, in fact, that when the Grants moved from Nanuet, N.Y., to Tobyhanna, Pa., when Grant was entering the third grade, Gallwey eventually made the move, as well.

"When my father moved to Pennsylvania with us, Ryan spent his afternoons after school with his grandfather," said Patrice Grant, Gallwey's daughter. "He would take piano lessons with his grandfather and the two of them would spend hours together after school practicing. They would go over homework and piano lessons and sports trivia, so Ryan had a very close relationship with his grandfather.

"He was constant in Ryan's sports career, from Pop Warner straight through."

But Gallwey never got to see Grant wear his No. 25 Packers jersey. And when Grant was given the break of his career last September, he made the trip to Green Bay with a void that he transformed into career-altering inspiration.

"When I got hurt my second year, he told me, 'I don't know if I'm going to see you play again, Ryan,' " Grant said. "I took that hard because I know he wanted to see me play and I was out the whole season.

"I told him, 'Hang on, Gramps. Just hang on. You'll be all right. You'll make it.' He ended up dying a couple days before the first preseason game, which he was going to see on TV. I had a pretty good game that day and it was hard."

But the best was yet to come. Packers general manager Ted Thompson, desperate for a running back after the free-agent departure of all-time franchise great Ahman Green, studied his options and ultimately decided Grant was worth a sixth-round draft choice.

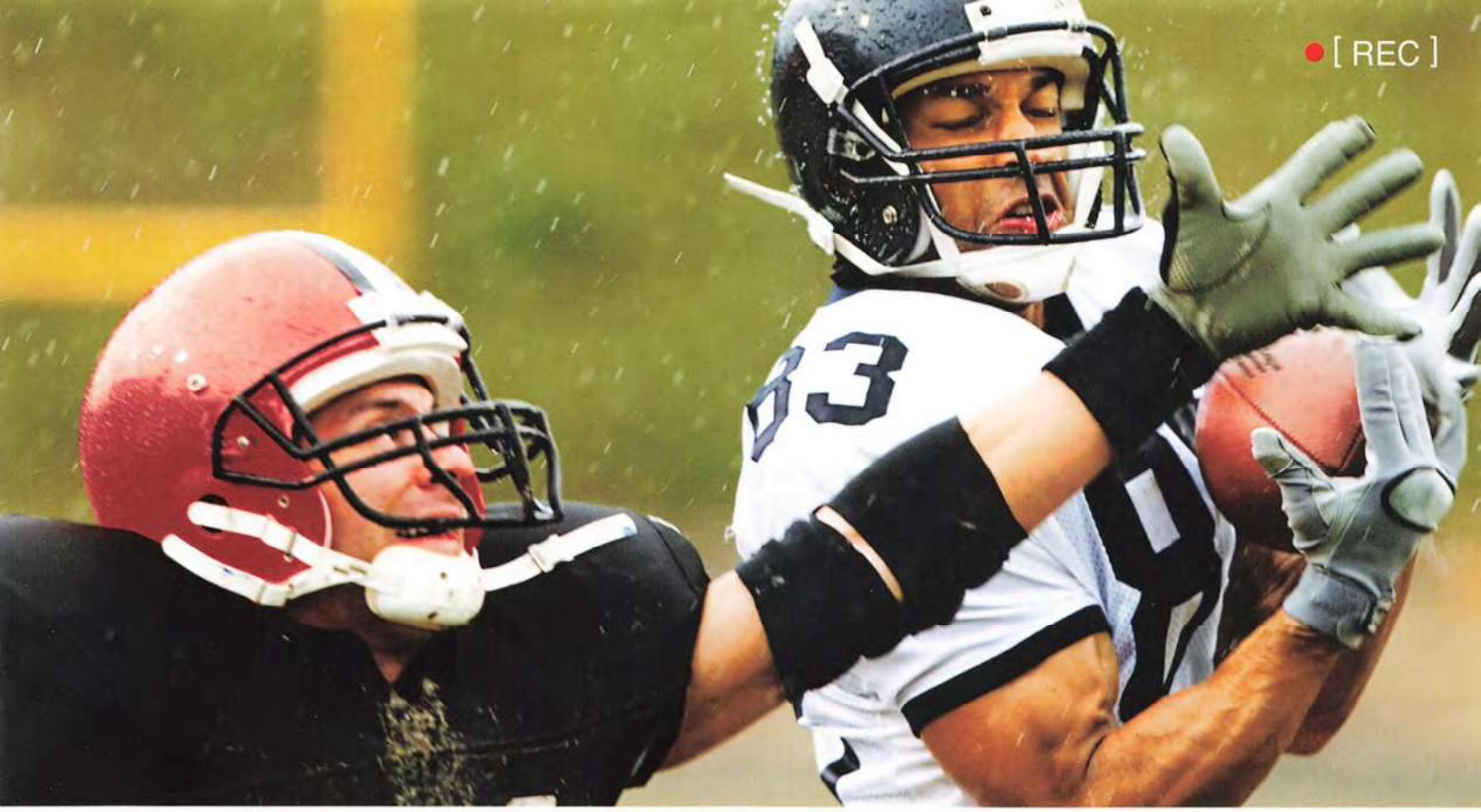
Grant took care of the rest. Grant, such a serious young man whom Grandpa Percy often tried to lighten up, used to submerge deep within himself prior to every game with the Packers, bringing fuzzy images of his late grandpa into focus.

"Every time I went out the tunnel, I'd think about him," Grant said. "I don't think that's going to change. The way my family is, I know he's always going to be with me."

That can only mean good things for the Packers, who could have been left with a huge void in their running game without his emergence. Prior to Grant's coming-out party Oct. 29 against the Broncos at Denver in a Monday night game, the Packers had rushed for just 396 yards in six games and were averaging 3.2 yards per attempt through their first six games.

Even though Brett Favre was having an MVP-caliber season at that point and even though the Packers were 5-1, a 3.2-yard rushing average is going to eventually catch up with any team. And an up-and-coming team easily could have been derailed before it ever arrived atop the NFC North Division standings and to within four points of appearing in the Super Bowl.

But starting with that Broncos game, when Grant erupted for 104 yards, he contributed 929 yards and eight touchdowns and averaged 5.1 yards per carry. Included in that stretch was a 100-yard performance, which included a



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66-yard run in the bitter cold at Soldier Field during a 35-7 loss to the Chicago Bears.

"It was, by far, the coldest game I've ever been in," he said.

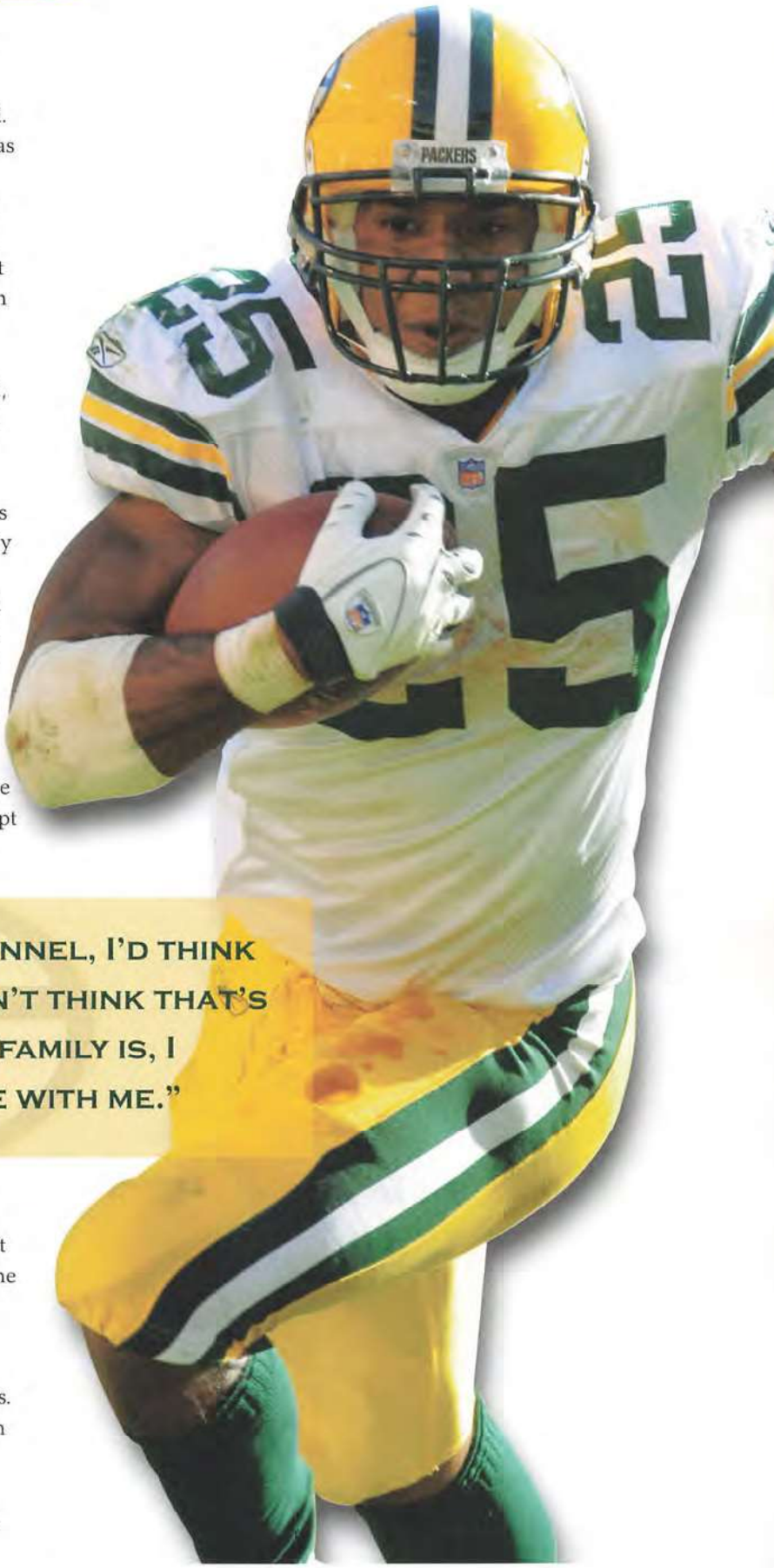
Grandpa Percy was sure with Grant that day. And so was an inner confidence that was still growing within him.

"I've always taken a stance that from a personal level, I feel like if I perform, we'll win," Grant said. "And that's not coming from a cocky place. It's coming from a place of what a running back brings to the table offensively and how it can open up the passing game.

"I don't think people really understand how much having a solid running game can do on both sides of the ball, including the other team. I do feel if I perform at the level I know I'm supposed to perform at, we'll win as a team. So I always felt I needed to be a spark for the offense."

A spark just as Dorsey Levens used to be for the Packers earlier this decade. Just like Levens, Grant played collegiately at Notre Dame (although Levens transferred to Georgia Tech). Levens was 6-foot-1 and 224 pounds. Grant is 6-foot-1 and about 230. Both players did not emerge until their third seasons in the NFL. And both players were assigned No. 25 by the Packers.

"When I met him — he came to one of the games — we were talking and it was kind of funny," Grant said. "I told him I could see where the jokes come from because when he walked into the room, everyone was like, 'RG!' Everyone kept calling him 'RG.'



"EVERY TIME I WENT OUT THE TUNNEL, I'D THINK ABOUT HIM," GRANT SAID. "I DON'T THINK THAT'S GOING TO CHANGE. THE WAY MY FAMILY IS, I KNOW HE'S ALWAYS GOING TO BE WITH ME."

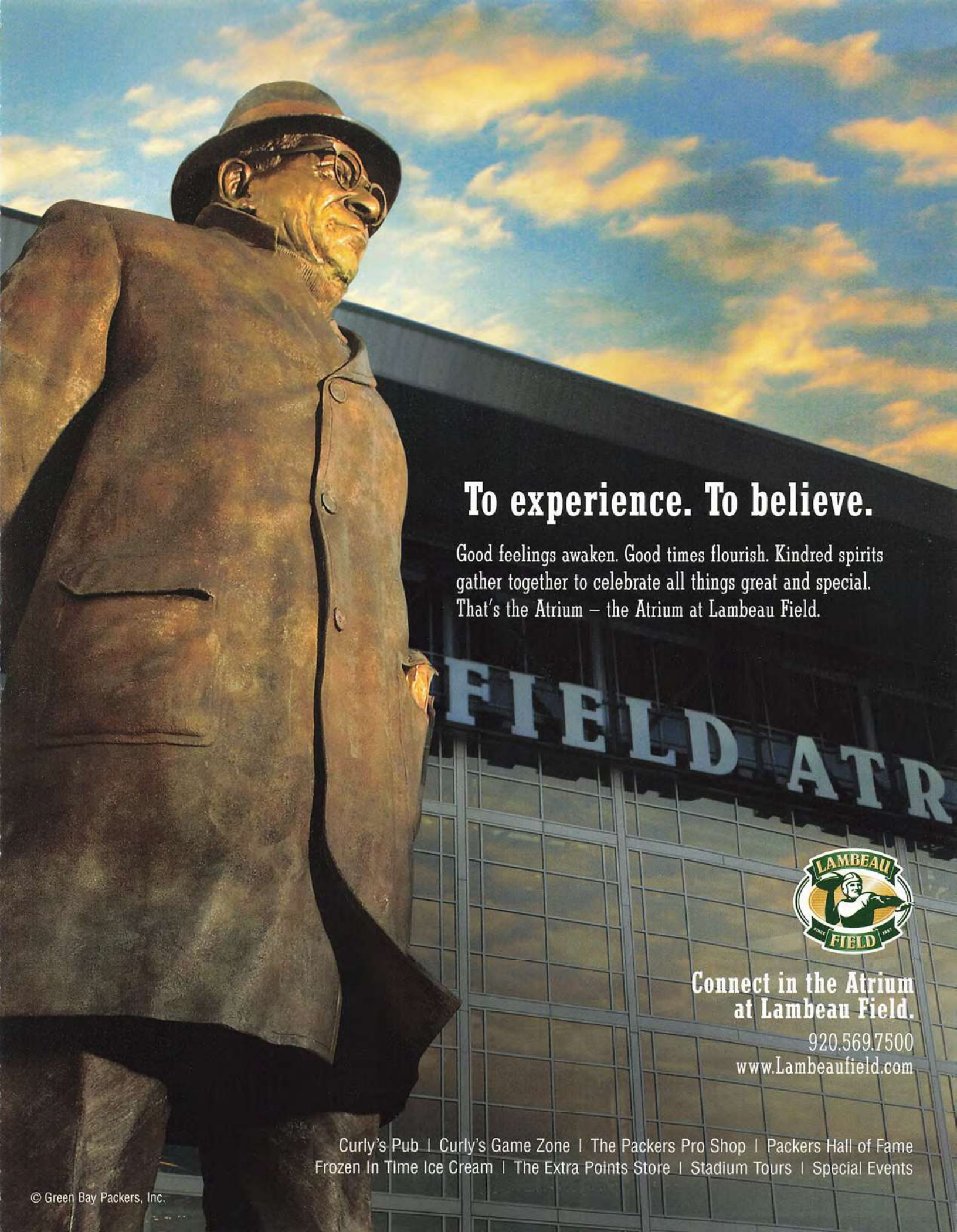
"I appreciate it and I'll take it if people want to put me in that light with Dorsey Levens, because I know the respect level he has in Green Bay. He did it for a long amount of time and he performed at a high level, so I'll take it."

Grant plans to chart the same career course. And with Grandpa Percy serving as a lasting inspiration, the Packers could end up with way more than just another Dorsey Levens.

"With his grandpa's passing, he said, 'Oh, Grandpa, I'm going to do this for you,'" Patrice Grant said.

And Grant has every intention of doing just that.

"I want to succeed on an even higher level," Grant said.



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As outdated as the specialists-are-strange stereotype is, punter Jon Ryan and kicker Mason Crosby make sure that the Green Bay Packers have two normal, down-to-earth guys handling the kicking duties. There's nothing weird about either one of them.

Well, with one notable exception: The game of backgammon.

It seems the two friends and locker-room neighbors have been keeping track of the results of every single one of their dice-and-checkers game since Crosby beat out incumbent kicker Dave Rayner during their 2007 training camp competition.

"I'm up by 31," Crosby said in the middle of the tandem's 253rd game recently.

"It's pure luck," Ryan said, shaking his head.

Hardly. Just as it wasn't luck that these two ended up becoming such good friends. After an awkward start -- Ryan also grew close to Rayner during the 2006 season, before Crosby arrived as a sixth-round pick the next spring -- Ryan stood up in Crosby's wedding in June, and the two have

TANDEMS:
MASON CROSBY & JON RYAN

By Jason Wilde - Wisconsin State Journal

developed a kinship they believe will last the rest of their NFL careers -- and beyond.

Q: Because you're specialists, you spend more time together than anybody during practice. What kind of friendship have you two forged in the past year?

Crosby: I think it's a pretty good one. We have a lot in common, we're able to kind of keep ourselves busy during practice, whenever we're having to be on our own and do our own things. I really looked up to Jon when I first came in as a rookie and once I beat Dave out. It was good to have someone I got along with and had a lot in common with.

Ryan: Yeah, as soon as Mason made the team, we found we just had a lot in common. We hung out a lot during practice, we hung out outside of football, and we just became pretty good friends pretty fast.

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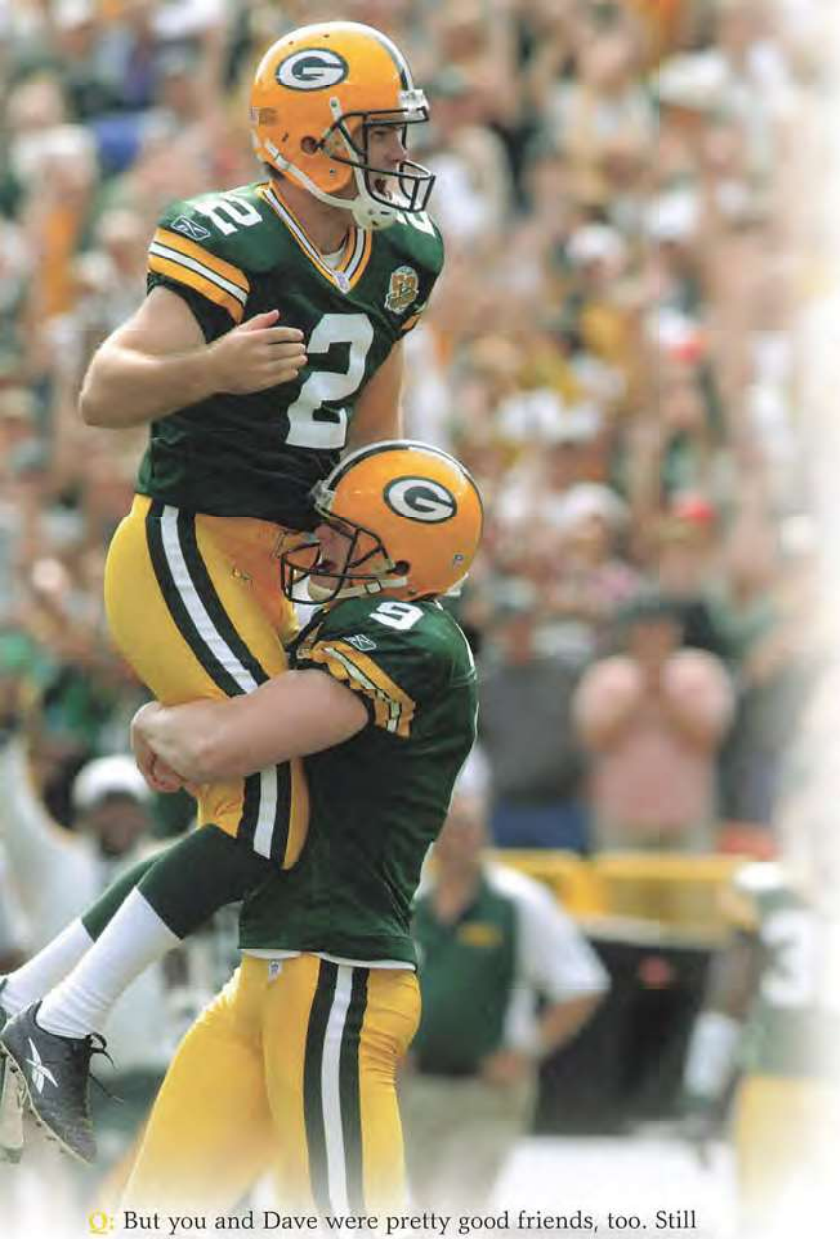

Q: But you and Dave were pretty good friends, too. Still are, I imagine. What was that like for you? Was it a difficult position for you? I assume you felt some loyalty to your friend Dave, and here's the new guy who just beat him out.

Ryan: It was a little bit awkward. I'd think, 'If (Dave) sees me talking to him ...'It seemed kind of childish, actually. But that's just the way football works on the competition side of it. You kind of have to let that stuff go. We understand it's a business and guys come and go, and sometimes they're some of your good friends who come and go.

Q: What do you talk about during your downtime at practice?

Ryan: Most of the time we're not talking about football. We talk about everything, from video games to golf to women.

Crosby: A lot of golf.

Q: Bragging about golf? Giving tips?

Ryan: Mason brags about golf, I complain about golf. That's how it goes.

Q: You're really good, right, Mason?

Crosby: Some days. Yesterday not so good. I hit the ball pretty well. I've been hitting my driver well lately. I'm a 7 or 8 handicap.

Ryan: I'm a 16 or 17. But I beat Mason once this year. It was a big victory, really. I'm usually in the low 90s, high 80s, but I actually shot an 83 that day, and Mason didn't.

Q: How do you help each other in terms of your jobs? All this off-the-field friendship stuff is great, but how does it help you as players?

Ryan: Not a lot of guys know what's going on in kicking and punting. So if I'm having problems, I tend to go to Mason and have him watch what I'm doing and see if he sees anything. It's always good to have a guy to go to and bounce some ideas off of. Because you don't have a lot of people to talk to about kicking.

Q: Is every kicker different for a holder?

Ryan: Him and Dave like it similar, so it wasn't that much of an adjustment. But some kickers, I remember when Billy Cundiff was here, he was very particular about it and he wanted it a certain way -- and he wasn't happy when it wasn't that way. Some guys are a little more picky than others. But a guy with a strong leg like Mason, it doesn't matter quite as much. They hit the ball a long ways whether it's perfect or not.

Q: So is this a friendship that'll last no matter what? Jon obviously goes into training camp facing competition from Ken DeBauche, and it's possible you two won't be together another year. But your friendship will continue, right?

Crosby: That's definitely true. Jon's a groomsman in my wedding. I had my brother and my long-term friends, and then Jon and I hit it off so well as friends that it was kind of just a given. I needed another guy, so I asked Jon. I don't know if this kind of friendship happens that much, because of the changes that happen in this business. But as kickers and punters, you spend more time with each other when guys are watching film or in meetings. Those guys don't get to know each other as well as we do.

Ryan: I think it'll be a friendship that will go on forever. I think it's rare in this business. This is my fifth year of pro football -- not all in the NFL -- and I know that I was good friends with some guys in the CFL, and you just kind of drift apart once you change teams two or three times. You're more acquaintances than friends. But I'll be very surprised if 10, 20 years from now we weren't still friends.

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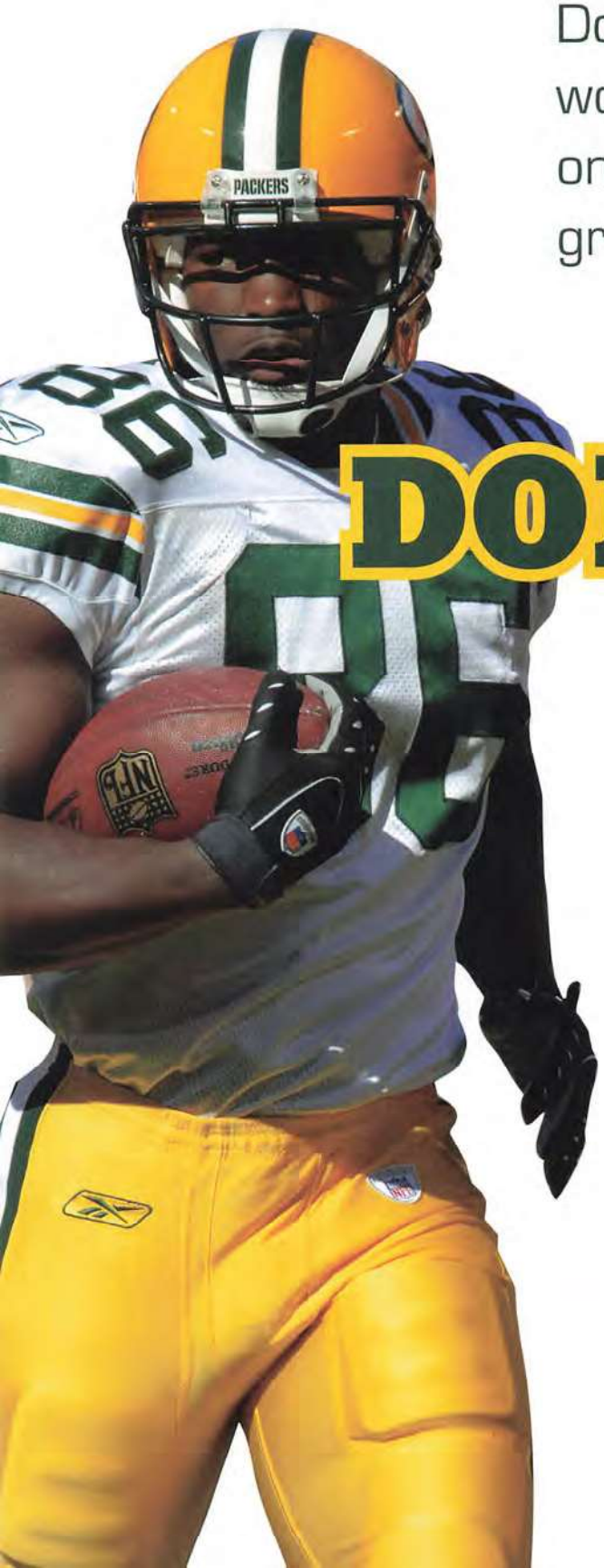
The moment – the one where Donald Lee realized that everything would turn out for the best – came only a couple of days after the greatest disappointment of his life.



DONALD LEE

Running Over Obstacles

By Rob Demovsky - Green Bay Press-Gazette

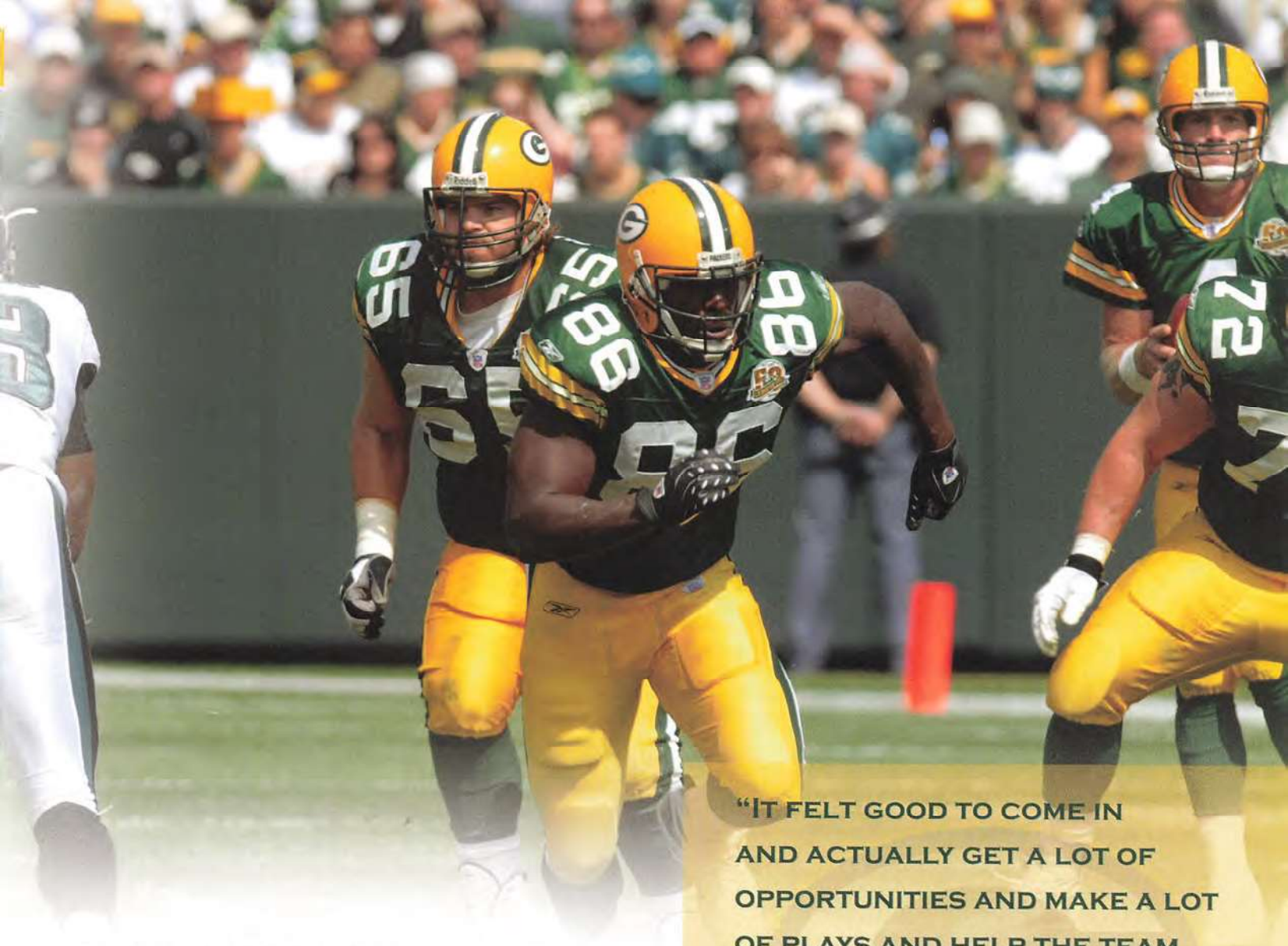
It was late summer 2005, and then-Miami Dolphins coach Nick Saban called Lee into his office to tell him the team was going to cut him. After two seasons with the Dolphins – the team that drafted him in the fifth round in 2003 out of Mississippi State – his career was at a crossroads.

"I was hurt," Lee said. "It hurt my ego."

Lee waited in Miami for a day to see if any of the other 31 NFL teams put in a waiver claim for him, but none did. The day he cleared waivers, his agent got phone calls from three teams: the Green Bay Packers, Carolina Panthers and New York Giants. The Packers called first, so Lee caught the next plane out of Miami and visited Green Bay. This was only five days before the 2005 regular season was to begin. He didn't know what the Panthers and Giants had in mind for him, so when the Packers offered him a contract, he accepted it.

"It was the best decision I ever made," Lee said. "I've always been a hard worker, and I felt like no matter what happens, if you work hard enough, it will be OK."

Turns out, it was more than OK. After spending his first two seasons with the Packers as a backup, Lee emerged as the No. 1 tight end last season, finally supplanting long-time starter Bubba Franks. Lee responded with the best season of his five-year NFL career. He set career highs for receptions (48), yards (575) and touchdowns (six).



"It felt good to come in and actually get a lot of opportunities and make a lot of plays and help the team win," Lee said. "I wouldn't want to change that. Last season was a great feeling all the way around."

Along the way, he received a four-year contract extension.

"If you look at Donald, a lot of it has to do with his mental and physical toughness," Packers tight ends coach Ben McAdoo said. "What he went through in Miami – being the No. 3, playing special teams and getting cut – probably was not very easy to take. But he fought through it and really took off and ran with it. And it's because of his work ethic. You won't find a harder worker than Donald."

It's hard for Lee to say what meant the most to him: his first starting job, the fact that he put up strong numbers, the Packers' 13-3 record and a trip to the NFC Championship Game or his contract. The soft-spoken Mississippian had finally reached so many goals in 2007.

"It felt good to come in and actually get a lot of opportunities and make a lot of plays and help the team win," Lee said. "I wouldn't want to change that. Last season was a great feeling all the way around.

"I look at it as truly a blessing that I'm here in Green Bay. Compared to Miami, it's night and day as far as the guys in the locker room and the coaches, and I wouldn't want to be any other place. I love it here."

When Lee finally emerged from behind Franks, who was the No. 2 tight end last season and was released this past offseason, he still may have been one of the lesser-known starting tight ends in the league. In fact, many casual observers still thought Franks was the Packers' starter. Still, that didn't bother Lee.

"Not at all," Lee said. "All of my life I'd been a starter until I came into the NFL. I was playing behind some pretty good players. In Miami, I was behind Randy McMichael. Up here, I was playing behind Bubba and David Martin. Playing behind guys like that, you learn a lot. I learned a lot from Randy McMichael, and I learned so much more once I got up here and was playing behind Bubba. Overall, that helped me out and helped my career out.

"When I play this game, I play for fun and to win. There's competition all over the league. I don't really try to compete with anybody. I just compete with myself each and every day."

Yet it became apparent last summer in training camp that everyone was going to have to compete with Lee. Thanks to a rigorous offseason program and hands-on training from McAdoo, Lee had made major strides and had improved his game. It was noticeable right from the start of last season.

"He's a tight end who's physical and when he gets a defensive back on him, I know he feels like he can overpower him," said Packers safety Nick Collins, who regularly covers Lee in practice. "He does a great job of doing that. Plus his speed for a tight end, I think he's one of the elite speed guys at tight end. He's like a receiver playing tight end."

Lee doesn't appear to be resting on his laurels. He wants to make the Pro Bowl – like Franks did. But more importantly he wants to win the Super Bowl.

"Right now, I just try to wipe the slate clean and try to improve on everything all over again," Lee said. "I feel like if you don't do that, and you just sit around and say you're only going to work on certain things, then you're not really getting better. I just try to come in and just get better in everything I do. The No. 1 thing here is to win. I feel like if we come together and win games, then I'm sure everyone will get what they want out of the deal. Pro Bowl would be nice. Super Bowl would be nicer."

Speaking of nice, what Lee did for his mother certainly qualifies. After he signed his contract extension last November, he immediately contacted a builder to start construction on a new home for his mother in their hometown of Pheba, Miss.

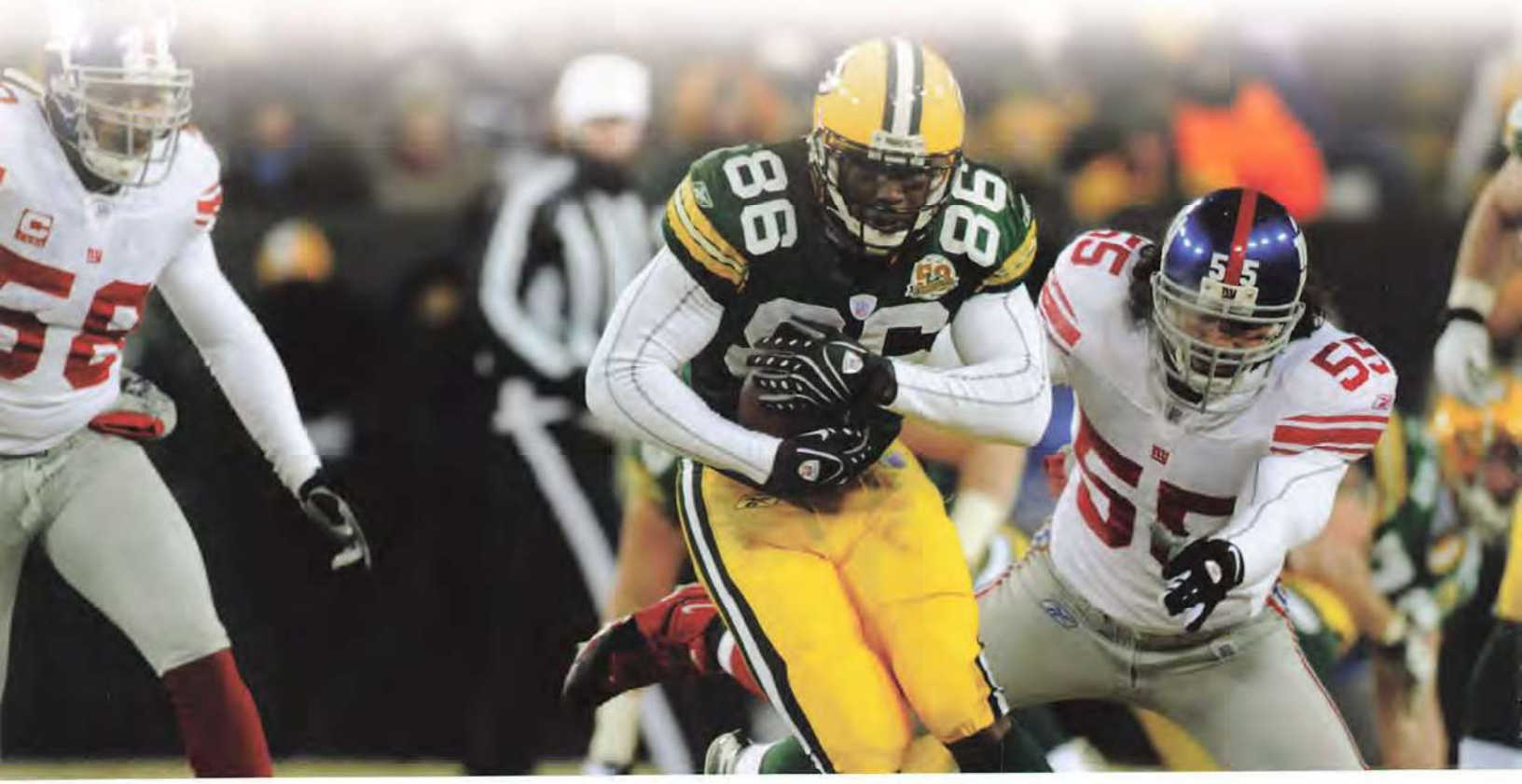
"I wanted to able to work hard enough to earn a nice contract to do something nice for my family," Lee said. "That was one of my goals coming into the league. When I finally reached that goal, it was like a big relief for my family. I grew up not having a lot. My mom worked two jobs, helping me and my brother through school. She's basically been struggling all her life and if I was ever in a position to help out, then I would do whatever it takes."

Lee's mother moved into the house in June.

"She's so excited, she's bouncing off the wall," Lee said.

As for Lee, he's excited for the 2008 season. Though he's entering his sixth NFL season, in many ways he feels like he's just beginning his career.

"Right now, I'm at the point in my career where I've still got a lot more to learn and can get a lot better than I am right now," Lee said. "Really, I just feel like I'm coming into my second year because I had been a straight special teams player and a backup my whole career until last year."



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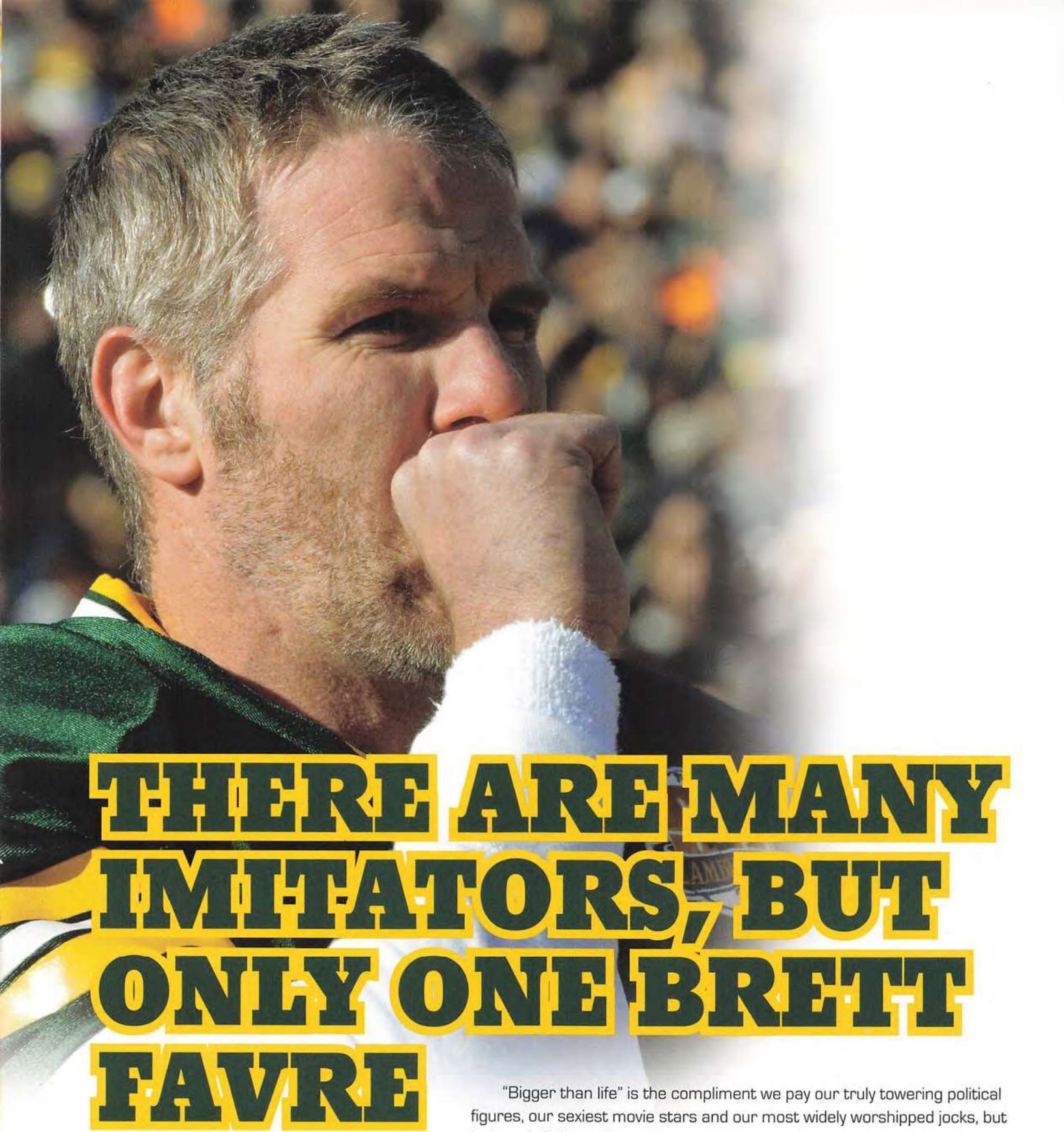
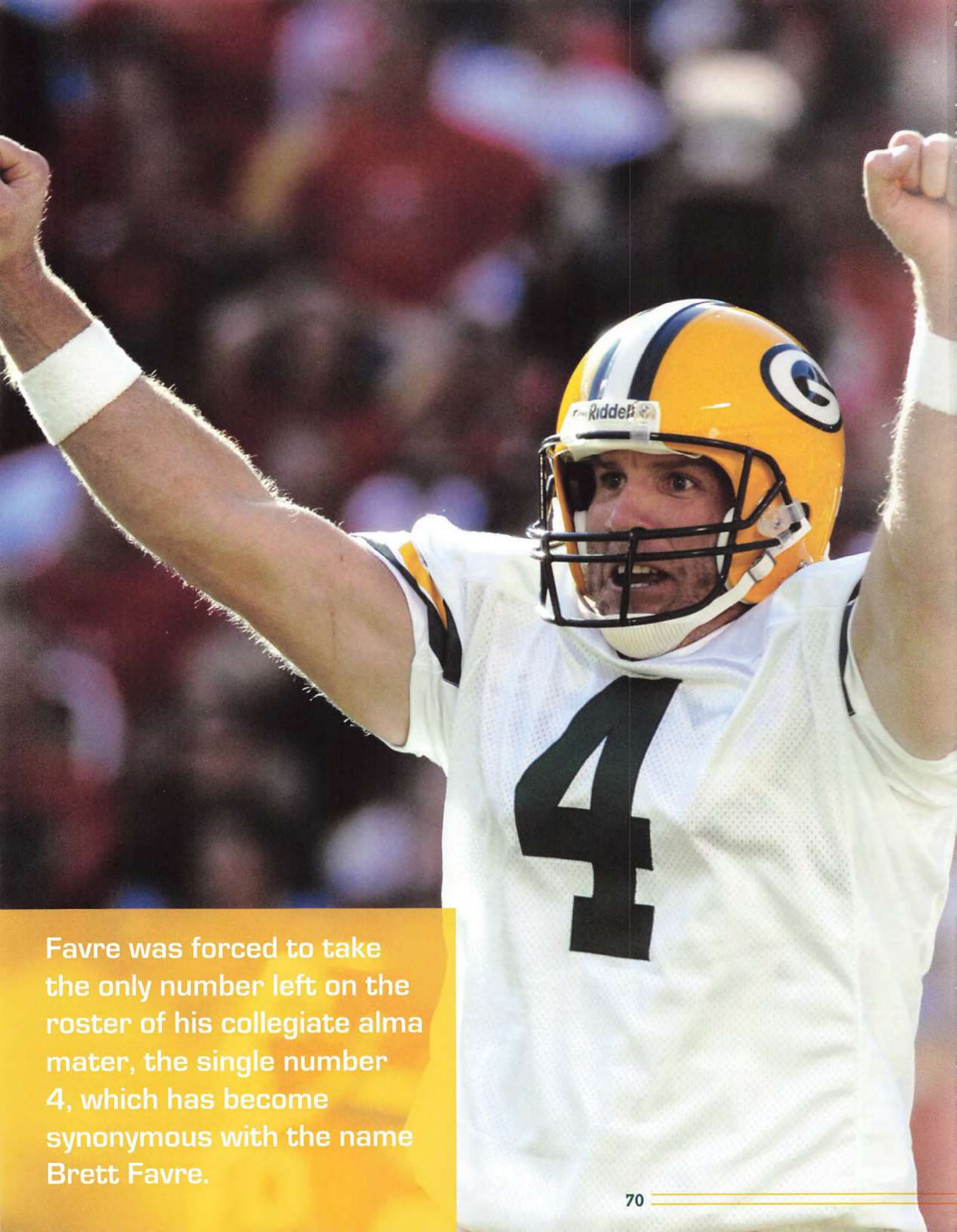


THERE ARE MANY IMITATORS, BUT ONLY ONE BRETT FAVRE

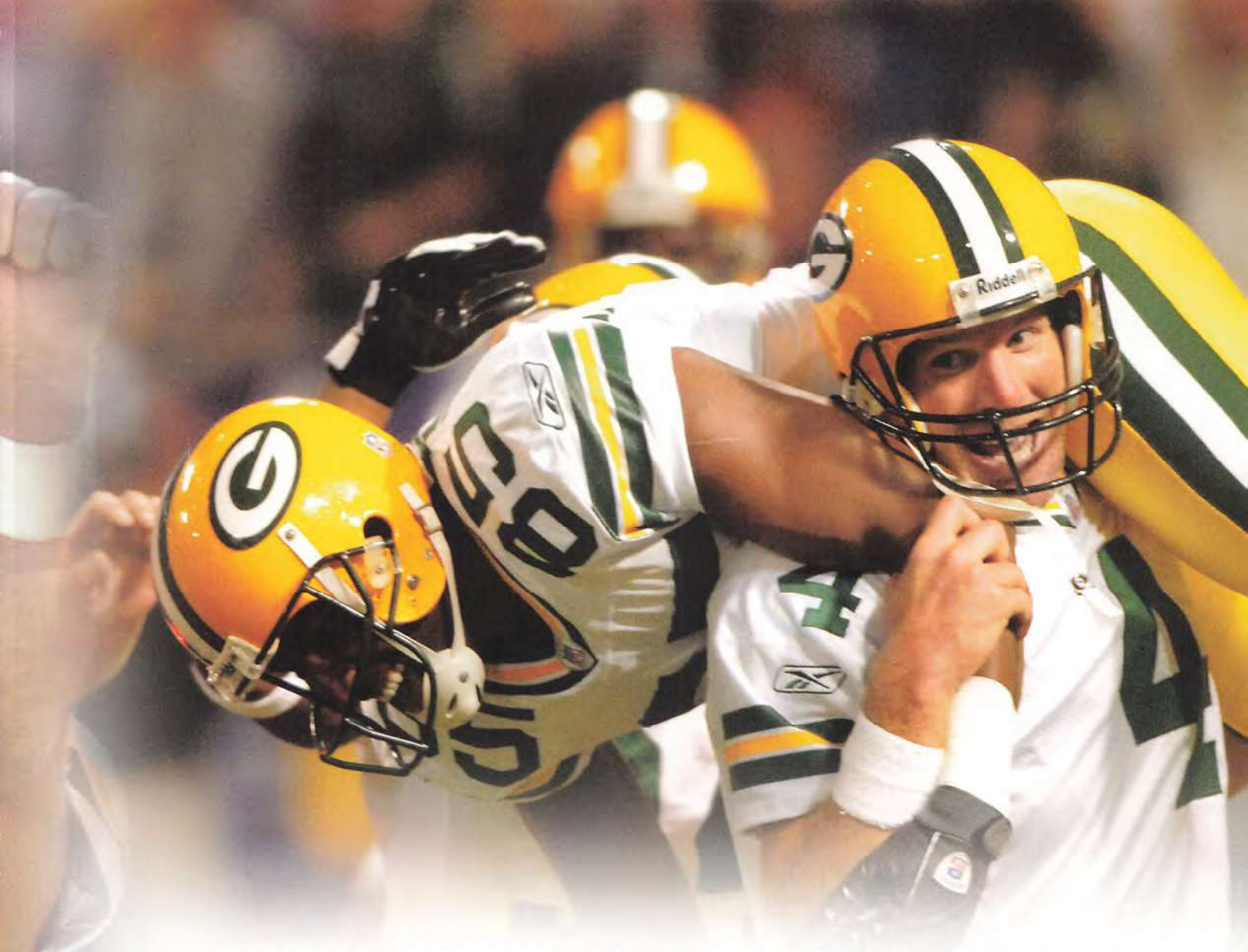
By Dale Hofmann

"Bigger than life" is the compliment we pay our truly towering political figures, our sexiest movie stars and our most widely worshipped jocks, but it doesn't fit Brett Favre. Favre and life have always been just about the same size, and that's leaving the National Football League with a tough act to follow.

Anyone who's ever lost a loved one, been sideswiped by cancer, struggled with substances, gone to work sick or had really bad days on the job knows how Favre has felt at one time or another. That takes in practically all of us, and like Favre, most of us have done it without whining.



Favre was forced to take the only number left on the roster of his collegiate alma mater, the single number 4, which has become synonymous with the name Brett Favre.



The trick in the entertainment business is to get the audience to identify with the actors, and there's the NFL's problem. It has other quarterbacks with winning smiles, rifle arms and a knack for getting things done, but how many of them make the customers think, "That could be me."?

During his 16 years in Green Bay, Favre wandered happily into the widening gap between pro athletes and their fans while bringing home as much as $11 million a year without making the public resent it. Every major sport desperately needs people who can do that, and no one ever did it better than Favre did just by being himself.

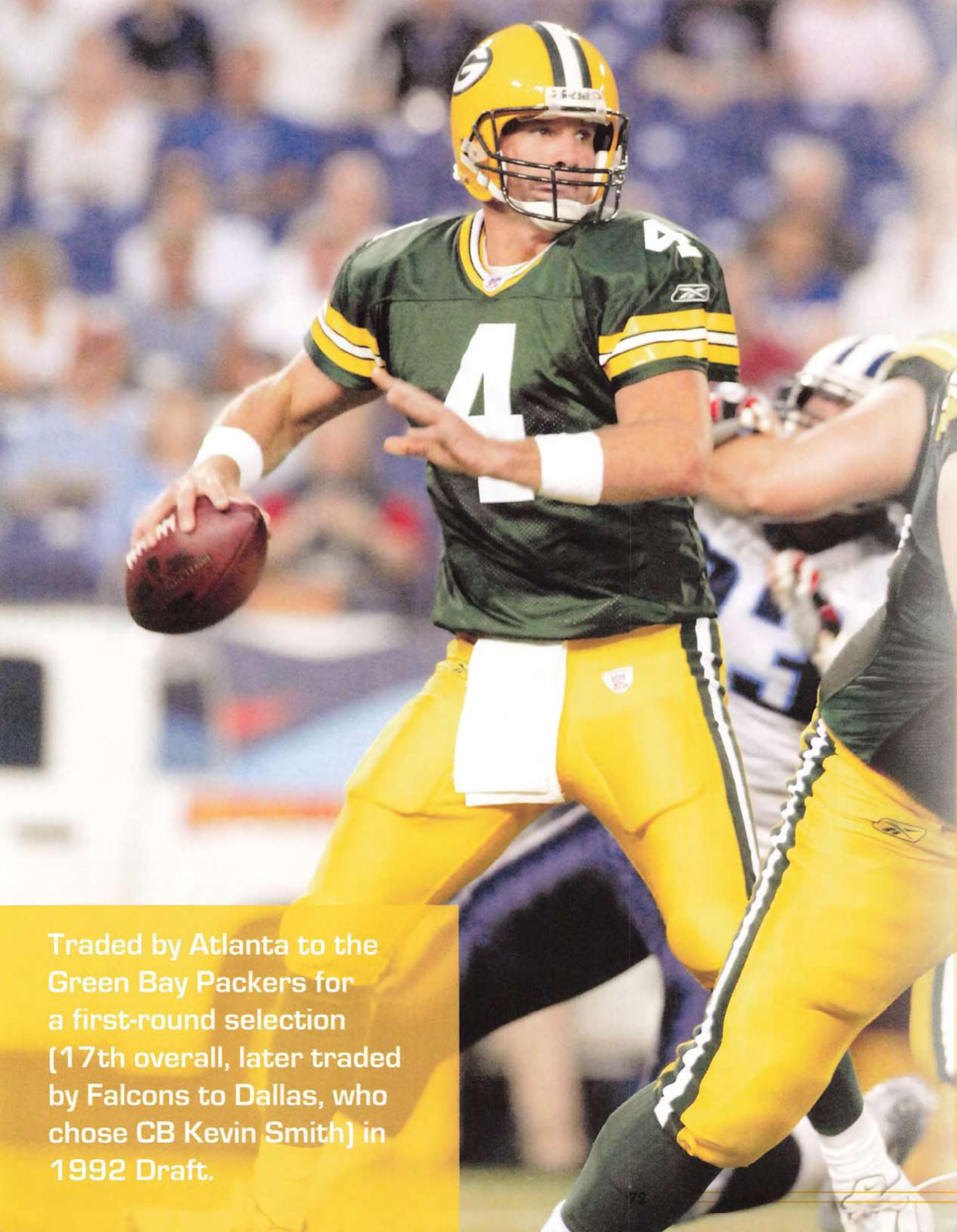
Now he's leaving, and there's no obvious candidate to carry around all that goodwill, which could explain why people are so reluctant to believe he's really gone. Even after the Packers drafted two quarterbacks this spring, General Manager Ted Thompson said he doubted that the popular notion of Favre coming back in case of an emergency was officially dead.

Or as tackle Mark Tauscher put it after Favre announced his retirement, "I don't think people will let that story ever die. Brett is like Elvis. People still say they see Elvis."

Elvis formally leaves the building when the franchise retires his jersey at the Sept. 8 season opener against Minnesota, and he'll be exiting a vastly different stage than the one he walked onto as a fun-loving, 22-year-old surprise package.

The Packers won a Super Bowl and played in another one during his tenure after participating in none the prior 25 years. They renovated their stadium for $295 million, and they restored pride to a franchise that had foundered in the NFL backwaters for more than two decades. Favre doesn't get all of the credit for these things, but none of them would have happened without him.

They're just some of the collective contributions he's made to the Packers, but it's the individual ones that linger with his colleagues - people like Donald Driver, the Packers' leading receiver and one of



Traded by Atlanta to the Green Bay Packers for a first-round selection (17th overall, later traded by Falcons to Dallas, who chose CB Kevin Smith) in 1992 Draft.

Favre's closest friends on the team.

"When I got here, it was intimidating just to be in the same area as Brett Favre," Driver recalled. "The first pass that was thrown to me in the NFL was by Brett, and I grabbed it and ran back to give him the ball. I remember him saying, 'Don't worry, you're going to have plenty more.'

"It's a dream for a seventh-round draft pick to have a Hall of Famer and a legend tell him that. It meant that he must have seen something in me as well. He was just one of those guys that everyone looked up to. That's why so many of the young guys in our locker room right now wish they would have the opportunity to see him play more and have him give them the benefit of his wisdom and his knowledge of the game."

What Driver is saying is that Favre made his teammates better, which is the working definition of leadership in any sport. He didn't shout, and he didn't lecture. He just played through a mind-bending series of injuries and personal hardships that made it embarrassing for anyone else to coast.

Driver calls him proof that a solid work ethic and a stubborn refusal to be discouraged can be the key to anyone's success. Of course the rifle arm and the knack for getting things done didn't hurt. They didn't hurt him, and they didn't hurt his receivers either.

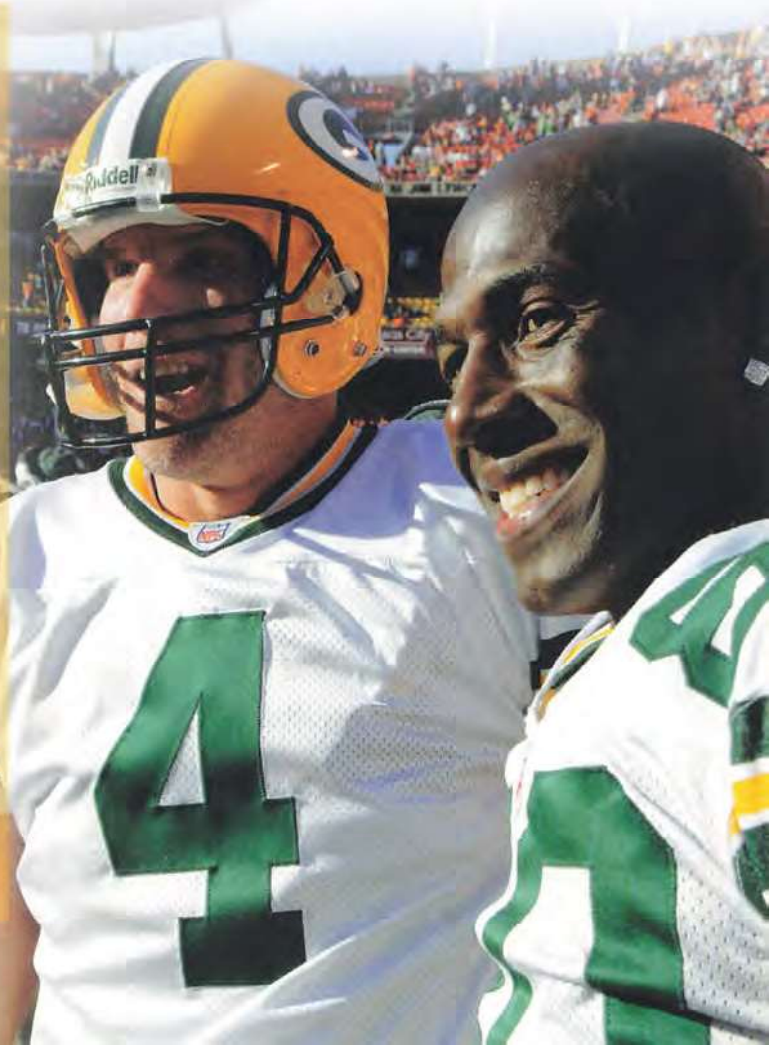
Antonio Freeman acknowledges that he was in exactly the right place at precisely the right time when he joined the team in 1995. The Packers had been tested in the playoffs, they'd put together a Super Bowl-caliber roster, and they had the game's best quarterback. In Freeman's view, that third factor was the making of him.

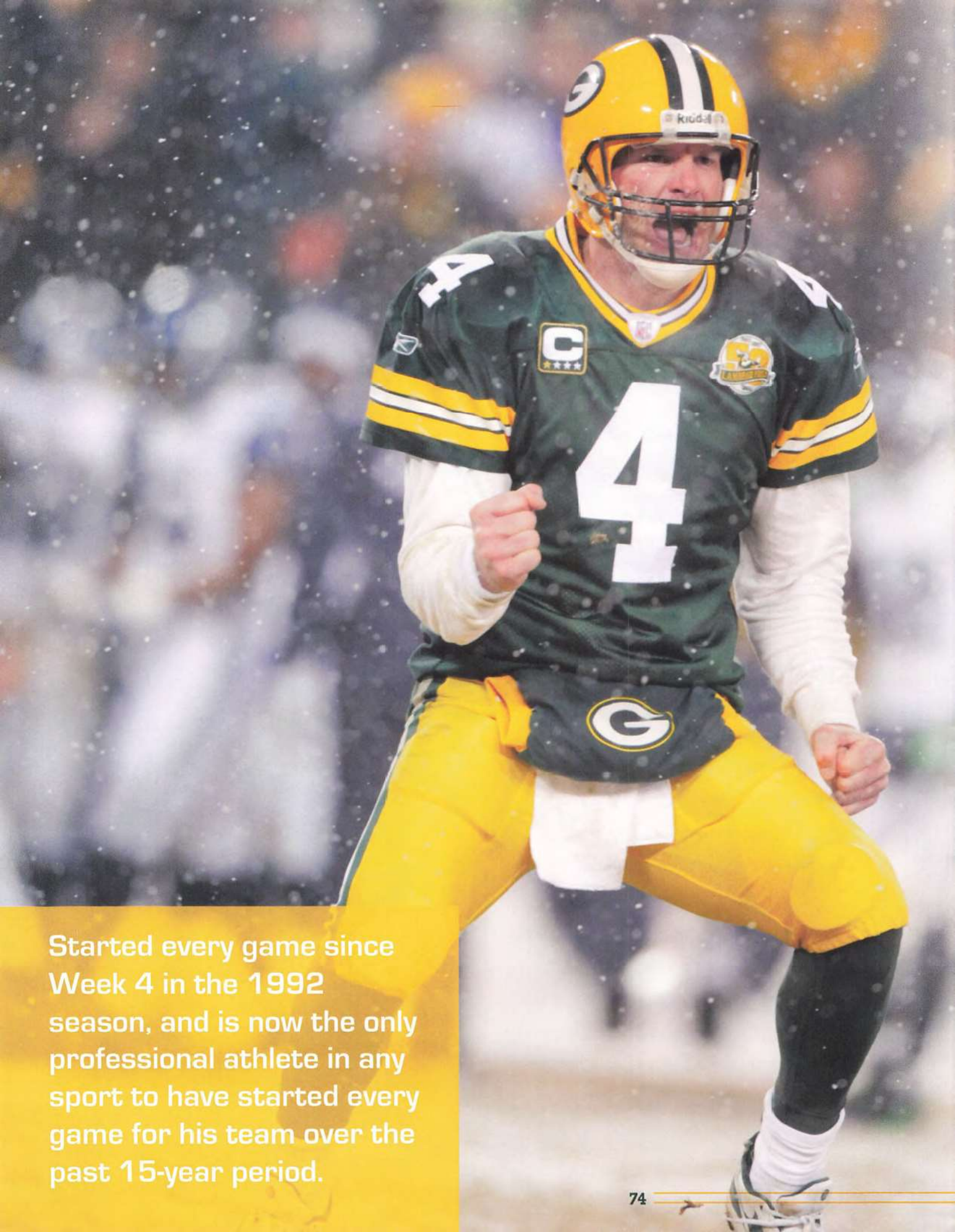
"Brett made me into a legitimate receiver," he said. "I was pretty good coming out of college, but who knew me? Everybody knew Brett. To come and play with an instant icon in this game gave me the time of my life. I had the greatest job in the world, catching the football from one of the greatest quarterbacks ever to play the game.

"Now every time his name is mentioned, my name is mentioned somewhere in the same breath because of what I was able to accomplish playing with him. I'm still able to enjoy those moments, not because of anything I did, but because he was so respected.

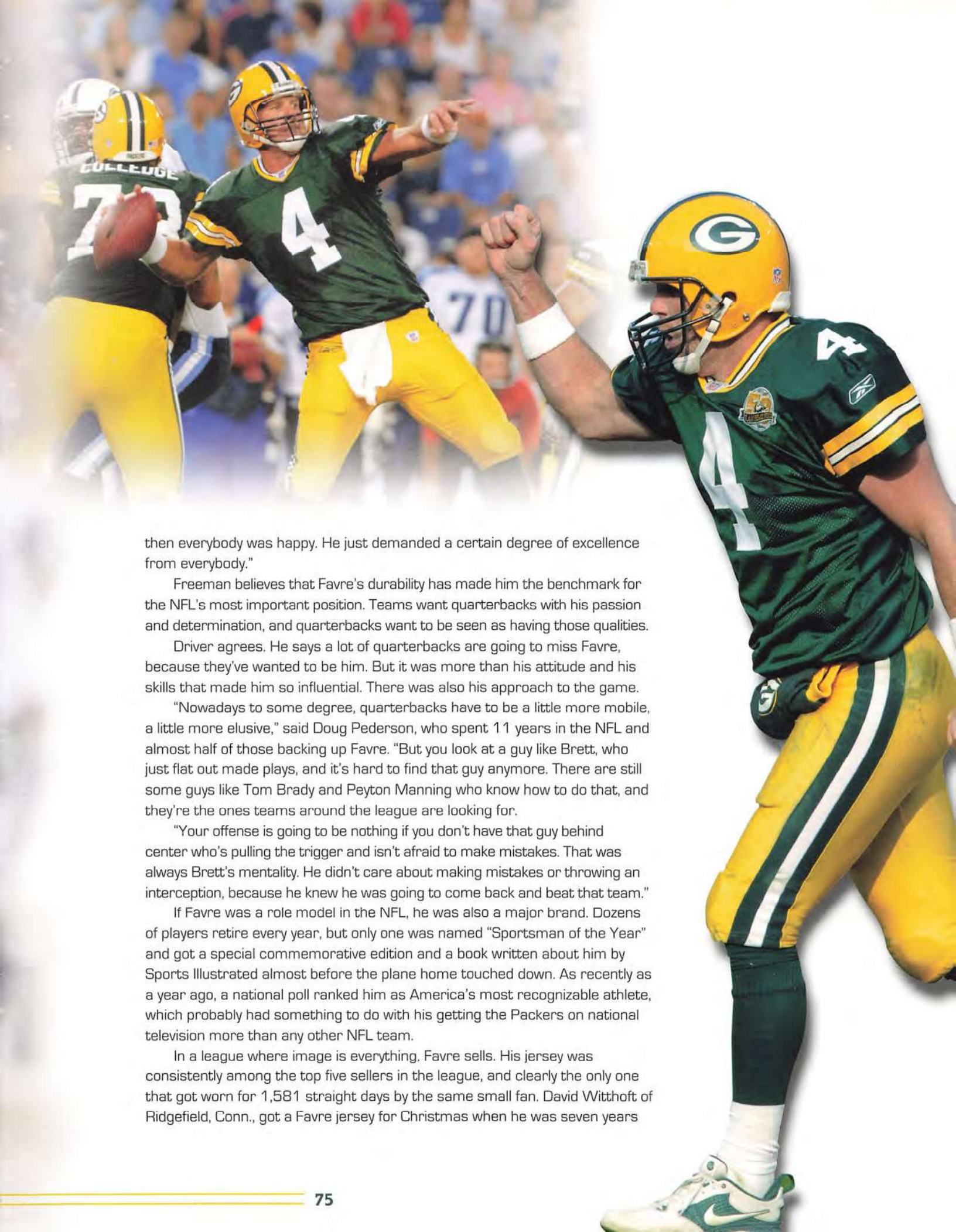
"You just wanted to make him happy, make him proud, because you could see what he meant to the game and to the Packers. And if you made him happy – if you caught the ball and made the first downs –

TEAMS WANT QUARTERBACKS WITH HIS PASSION AND DETERMINATION, AND QUARTERBACKS WANT TO BE SEEN AS HAVING THOSE QUALITIES. DRIVER AGREES. HE SAYS A LOT OF QUARTERBACKS ARE GOING TO MISS FAVRE, BECAUSE THEY'VE WANTED TO BE HIM. BUT IT WAS MORE THAN HIS ATTITUDE AND HIS SKILLS THAT MADE HIM SO INFLUENTIAL. THERE WAS ALSO HIS APPROACH TO THE GAME.





Started every game since Week 4 in the 1992 season, and is now the only professional athlete in any sport to have started every game for his team over the past 15-year period.



then everybody was happy. He just demanded a certain degree of excellence from everybody."

Freeman believes that Favre's durability has made him the benchmark for the NFL's most important position. Teams want quarterbacks with his passion and determination, and quarterbacks want to be seen as having those qualities.

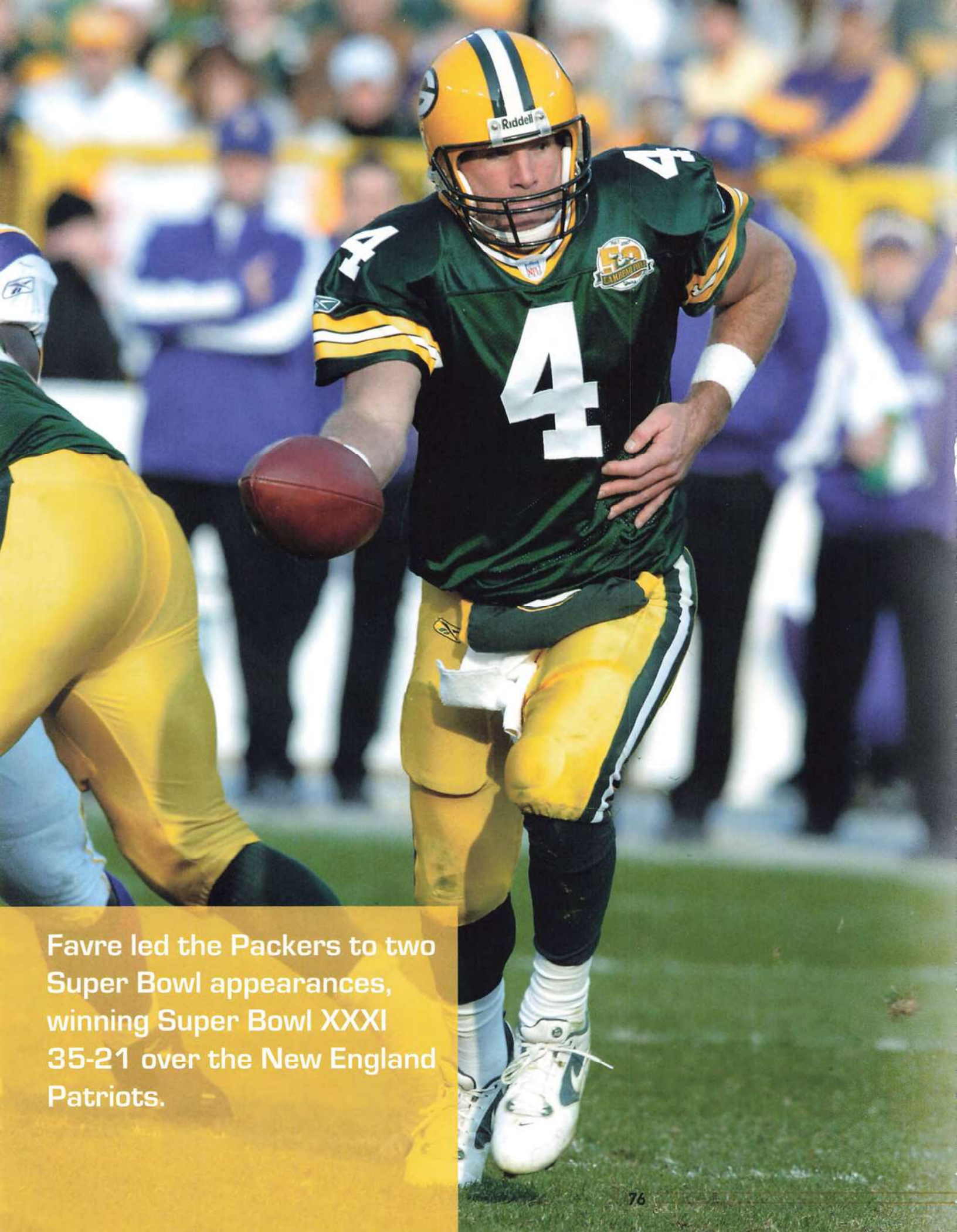
Driver agrees. He says a lot of quarterbacks are going to miss Favre, because they've wanted to be him. But it was more than his attitude and his skills that made him so influential. There was also his approach to the game.

"Nowadays to some degree, quarterbacks have to be a little more mobile, a little more elusive," said Doug Pederson, who spent 11 years in the NFL and almost half of those backing up Favre. "But you look at a guy like Brett, who just flat out made plays, and it's hard to find that guy anymore. There are still some guys like Tom Brady and Peyton Manning who know how to do that, and they're the ones teams around the league are looking for.

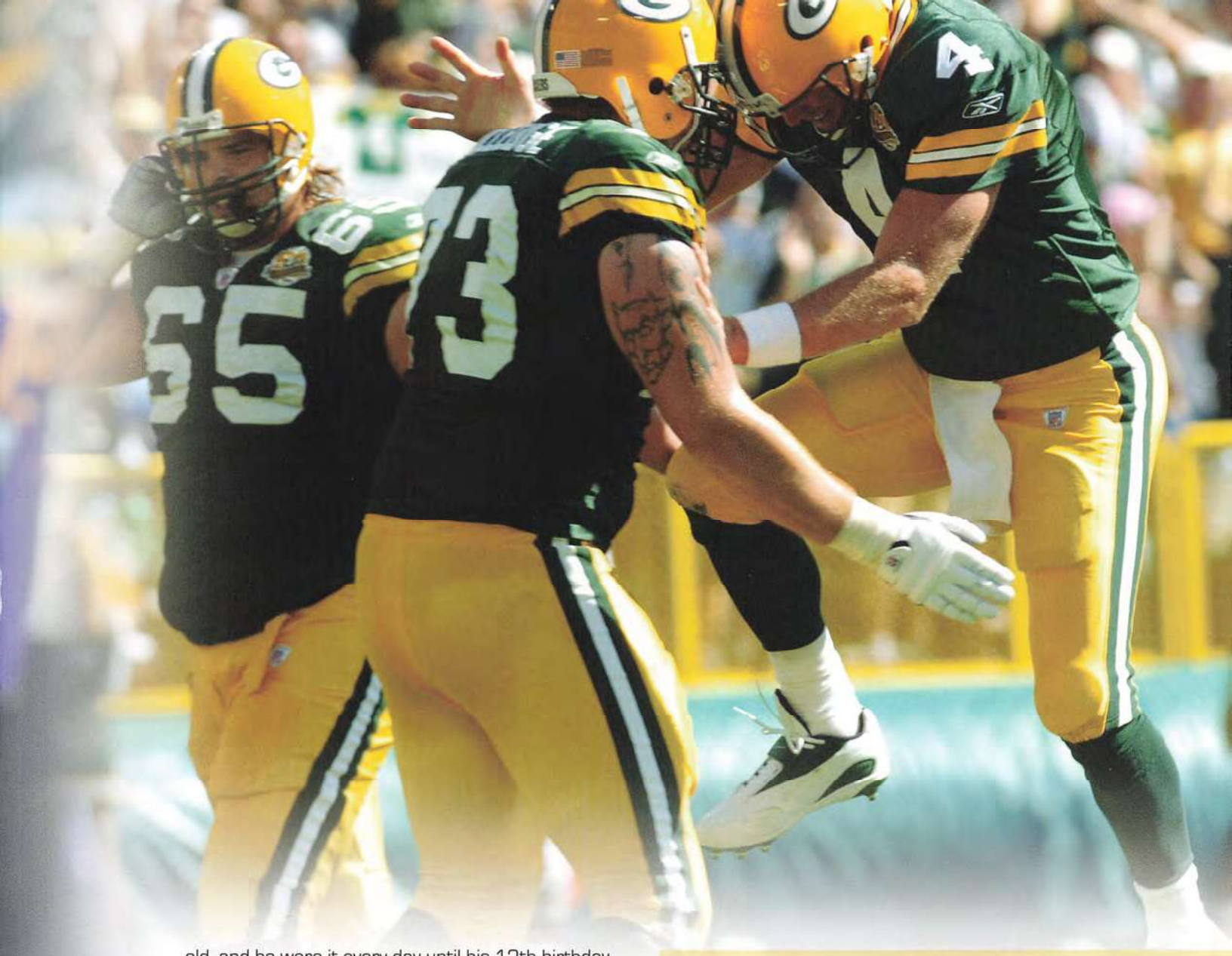
"Your offense is going to be nothing if you don't have that guy behind center who's pulling the trigger and isn't afraid to make mistakes. That was always Brett's mentality. He didn't care about making mistakes or throwing an interception, because he knew he was going to come back and beat that team."

If Favre was a role model in the NFL, he was also a major brand. Dozens of players retire every year, but only one was named "Sportsman of the Year" and got a special commemorative edition and a book written about him by Sports Illustrated almost before the plane home touched down. As recently as a year ago, a national poll ranked him as America's most recognizable athlete, which probably had something to do with his getting the Packers on national television more than any other NFL team.

In a league where image is everything, Favre sells. His jersey was consistently among the top five sellers in the league, and clearly the only one that got worn for 1,581 straight days by the same small fan. David Witthoft of Ridgefield, Conn., got a Favre jersey for Christmas when he was seven years



Favre led the Packers to two Super Bowl appearances, winning Super Bowl XXXI 35-21 over the New England Patriots.

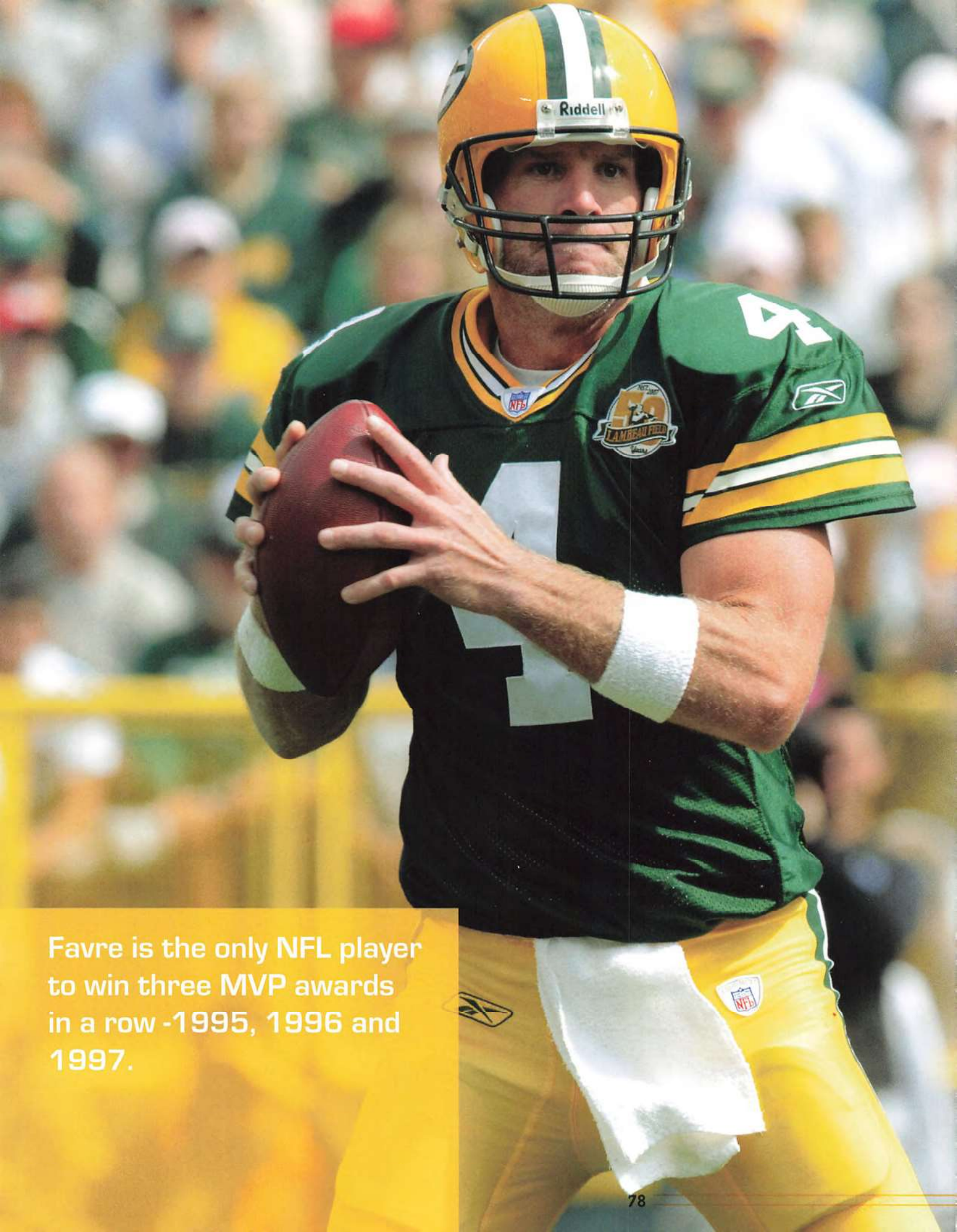


old, and he wore it every day until his 12th birthday last April. It was a fitting tribute for an athlete whose tattered jeans, sloppy sweatshirts and faded baseball caps only look like he's been wearing them that long.

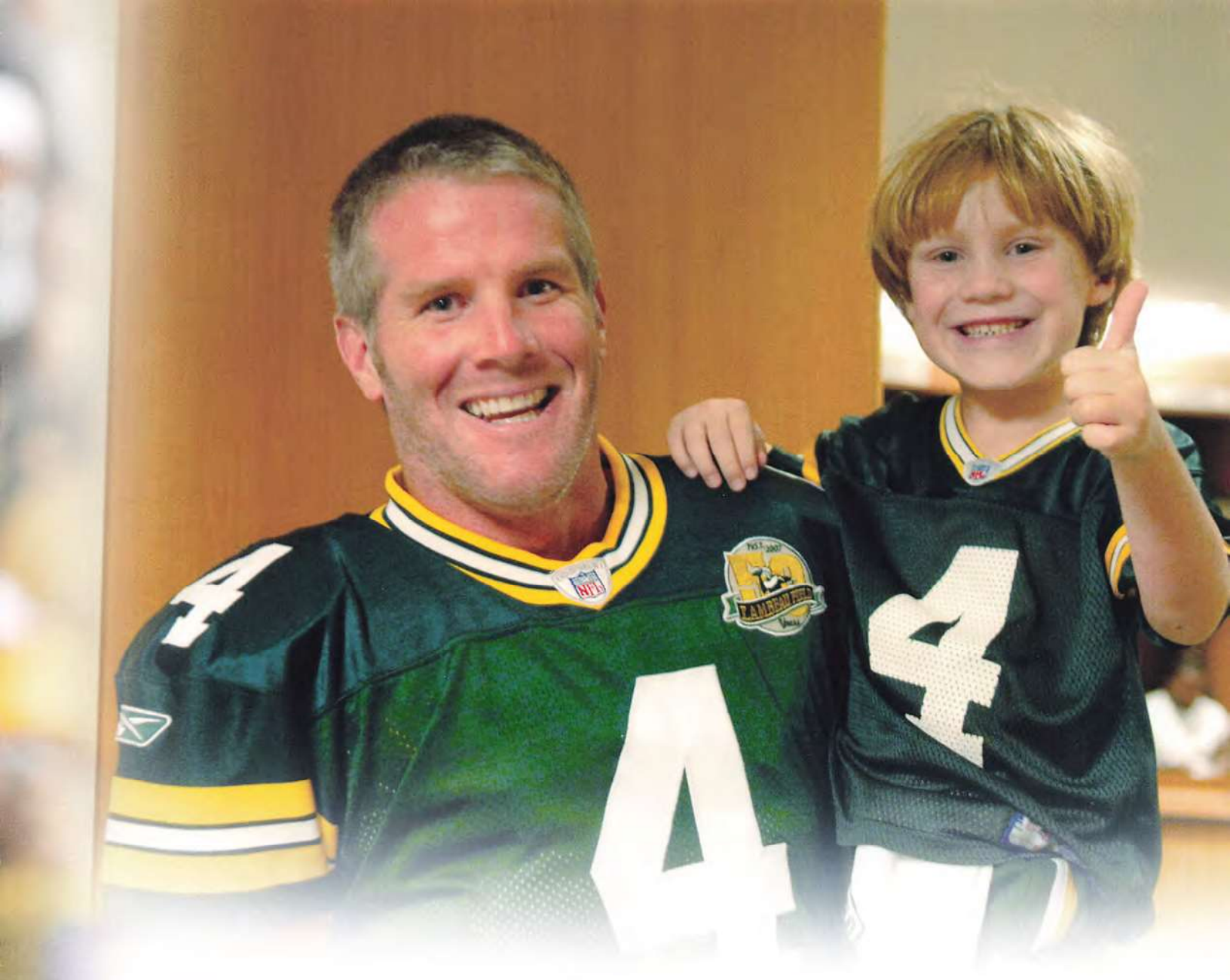
You can pay $180 online for a Brett Favre autographed mini-helmet and $470 for a Brett Favre autographed football. And if you buy the latest version of the immensely popular "Madden NFL" video game, you'll find Favre's face on the cover. It's an honor that didn't exactly bowl him over. When he learned of it, he said, "I'm not savvy enough to play this game. Some of our guys play Madden better than they play on Sundays." Yes, the man can be demanding.

Not that Favre is averse to lending his name to products. He cleared a reported $7 million in endorsements last year, but even when he goes commercial, he does it with a common touch. While others hawk luxury cars, upscale sneakers and blue chip stocks, he tries to relieve our heartburn with

AS RECENTLY AS A YEAR AGO, A NATIONAL POLL RANKED HIM AS AMERICA'S MOST RECOGNIZABLE ATHLETE, WHICH PROBABLY HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH HIS GETTING THE PACKERS ON NATIONAL TELEVISION MORE THAN ANY OTHER NFL TEAM.



Favre is the only NFL player to win three MVP awards in a row -1995, 1996 and 1997.



Prilosec, spare our teeth with Sensodyne and mow our lawn from the seat of a Snapper while wearing decidedly un-designer Wranglers.

His down-home appeal knows no boundaries. He's been declared Wisconsin's No. 1 export and Mississippi's No. 1 native son, and who else could make two such disparate states famous at the same time?

They even loved him in Chicago where they don't like anybody. As the *Chicago Tribune's* Rick Morrissey wrote upon Favre's retirement, "Even Bear fans will miss Favre. He was what Chicagoans want in their athletes. He was hard-working, fun -oving, daring, devilish, unblinking, unpredictable and opportunistic. He was as tough as a Chicago winter, which admittedly is a Green Bay winter with training wheels."

But they love him best right here in Wisconsin, where he's as famous for who he is as for what he did, and where the things he sells pale in comparison to the things he gives away.

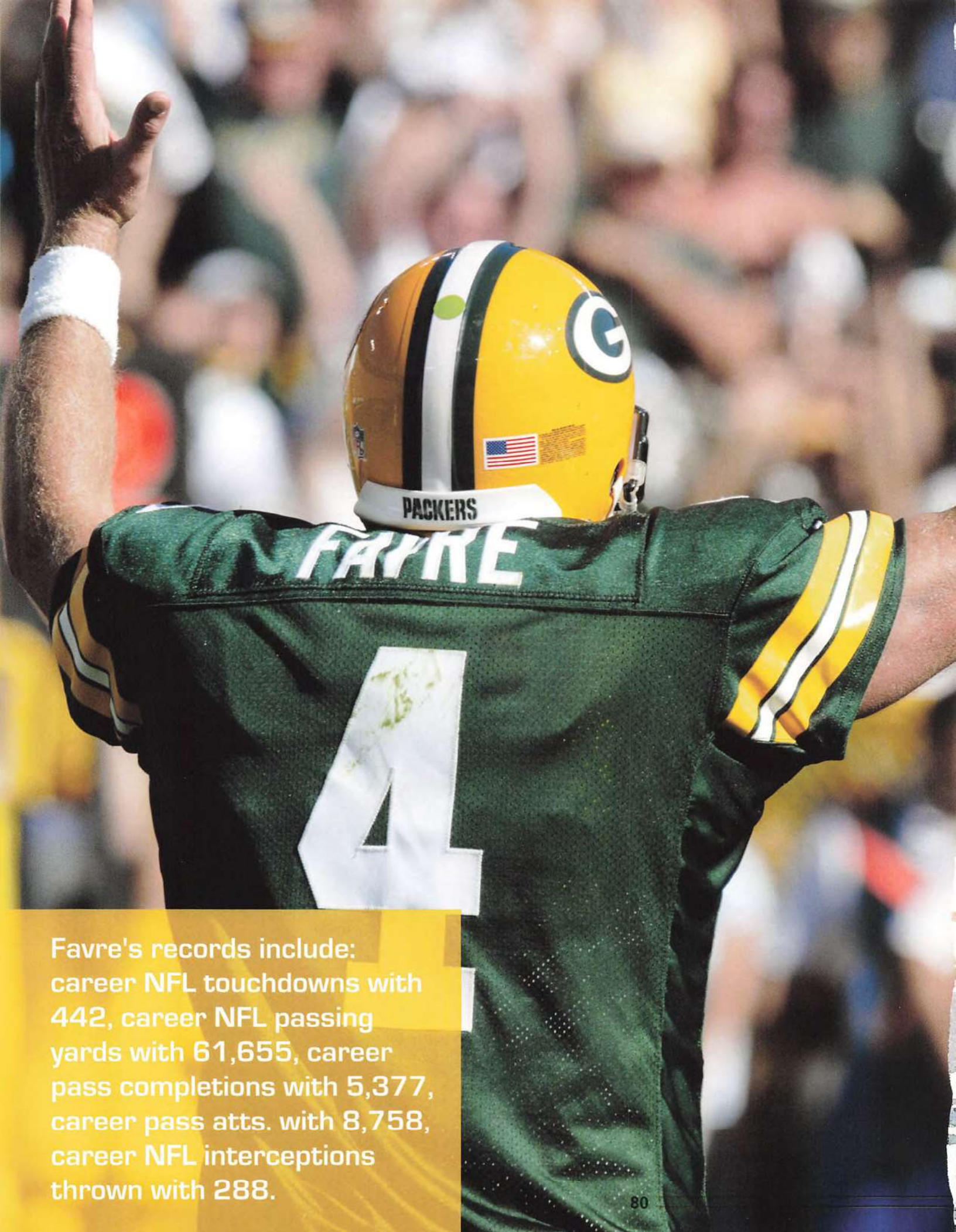
Favre's Fourward Foundation has raised millions for disadvantaged kids while providing him with another bridge to the people who are already missing him.

"When I've done appearances, the first thing people ask me is, 'Is Brett Favre really a nice guy?'" Freeman said. "They don't really give a darn about the touchdown you scored last week. It's just, 'Hey, do you know Brett?'"

Driver knows Brett, and he knows what Freeman is talking about.

"Every time I've been at a function that the Fourward Foundation put on, it's always been a sellout," he said. "Brett's always out there trying to give back. You know, they only see us on Sunday when we're wearing helmets, and you have to be able to go back into the community and have fun with the fans. The fans enjoy knowing that he's a normal person."

In his own peculiar fashion, Favre has turned "normal" into the ultimate compliment.



Favre's records include: career NFL touchdowns with 442, career NFL passing yards with 61,655, career pass completions with 5,377, career pass atts. with 8,758, career NFL interceptions thrown with 288.

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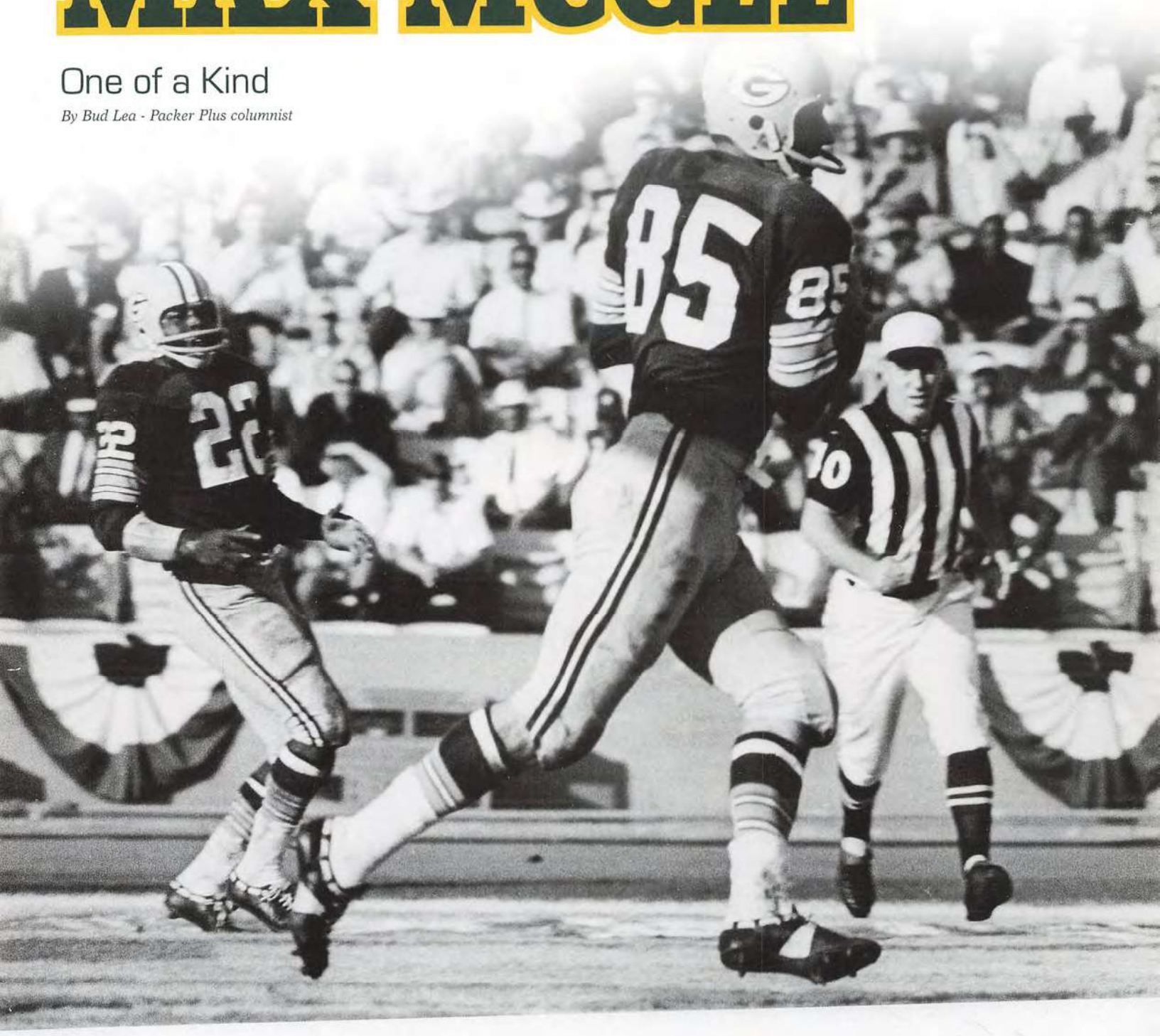
There are always too few Max McGees in the world.

MAX MCGEE

One of a Kind

By Bud Lea - Packer Plus columnist



It won't be the same in Packer Nation this year. It won't be the same because Max McGee will never again attend a homecoming weekend at Lambeau Field, a Packers Hall of Fame golf outing in Sheboygan, a speaking engagement in Milwaukee.

It won't be the same because Paul Hornung will not have the best friend of his life to keep in touch with, needling Maxie for his lapse of memory as the years flew by. It won't be the same because McGee will not be at Fuzzy Thurston's bar in Green Bay, telling customers what it was like to play his greatest game with a hangover after being out all night before the first Super Bowl.

It won't be the same in the International House of Pancakes in Edina, Minn., a restaurant McGee bought just so he could have a place to eat breakfast with his buddies.

McGee was an unforgettable character who gambled and chased women and broke curfew – the kind of a person you would love to be around. He lived in a man's world on and off the playing field. How we envied and admired him and often dreamed about being in his shoes.

He was the only leprechaun I have ever known. He always looked as if he had his own marked deck. He was as uncomplicated as a summer day.

If he had lived, Max would have celebrated his 76th birthday July 16, and the fact he isn't leaves everyone poorer. There are always too few Max McGees in the world.

The point is academic because there was, and could have been, only one Max McGee. He was unique, an original that couldn't be counterfeited.

He also was one of the most misunderstood men who ever wore the Green and Gold. Misunderstood because he wore his carefree bachelor days like a badge of honor, using it as a façade to camouflage the real Max McGee as the years went on.

When McGee married for the third time, in 1984 after 20 years of bachelor life, he told his current wife, Denise, "Honey, anything I did before we met doesn't count." They had two sons, Maxwell, who had Down syndrome, and Dallas, who later developed juvenile diabetes. My, did he love those boys.

Max and Denise were committed to helping their son Dallas live a healthy life. In 1999, he pledged $1 million for genetic research on diabetes. The money went to Children's Hospital in Milwaukee, which later created the Max McGee Research Center.

"My whole family has been affected by this disease," McGee said. "I want to do my part to find a cure."

With a laugh, he noted one more motive. "I want to be remembered for something other than being the guy who stayed out all night before the Super Bowl."

McGee didn't set out to be a football player despite being an outstanding athlete in high school, where he also played baseball and basketball and ran track. He was the Texas state high jump champion and, at 6-foot-2 and 210 pounds, played fullback on the football team. In his final high school game he rushed for more than 400 yards.

He was briefly recruited, and when Tulane offered his high school coach a job and Max a scholarship, he went to New Orleans, played football and discovered Bourbon Street.

He wasn't sure what he wanted to do after getting out of Tulane. He never thought of pro football. He figured he'd go back to White Oaks, Texas, and start working in a gas station like "all my idols," as teammate Jerry Kramer wrote in his book "Distant Replay."

But Green Bay offered him $7,500 to play in the NFL. He turned down $12,000 from a Canadian Football League team and played with the Packers for one year. Then he went into the Air Force and was a pilot for two years. On his first solo flight he missed the country he was supposed to land in and touched down by mistake in Mexico. McGee and the Air Force both survived his tour, and in 1957 he rejoined the Packers. His NFL career lasted 11 more seasons.

When the Packers selected Hornung as the bonus choice in the 1957 draft, he and McGee became roommates. "With

IN HIS BOOK, "RUN TO DAYLIGHT," VINCE LOMBARDI WROTE, "IF MAX WERE A PERFECTIONIST THERE IS NO TELLING HOW GREAT A RECEIVER HE MIGHT BE, BUT THEN, PRESSING ALL THE TIME AS PERFECTIONISTS MUST, HE WOULD PROBABLY LOSE ONE OF HIS GREATEST ASSETS, HIS ABILITY TO RELAX. HE CAN RELAX BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER A GAME, AND IT MAKES HIM A GREAT CLUTCH PLAYER, ALTHOUGH IT ALSO CONTRIBUTES TO HIS TENDENCY TO BE A LITTLE CARELESS."

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PHOTO BY JAMES PORTO

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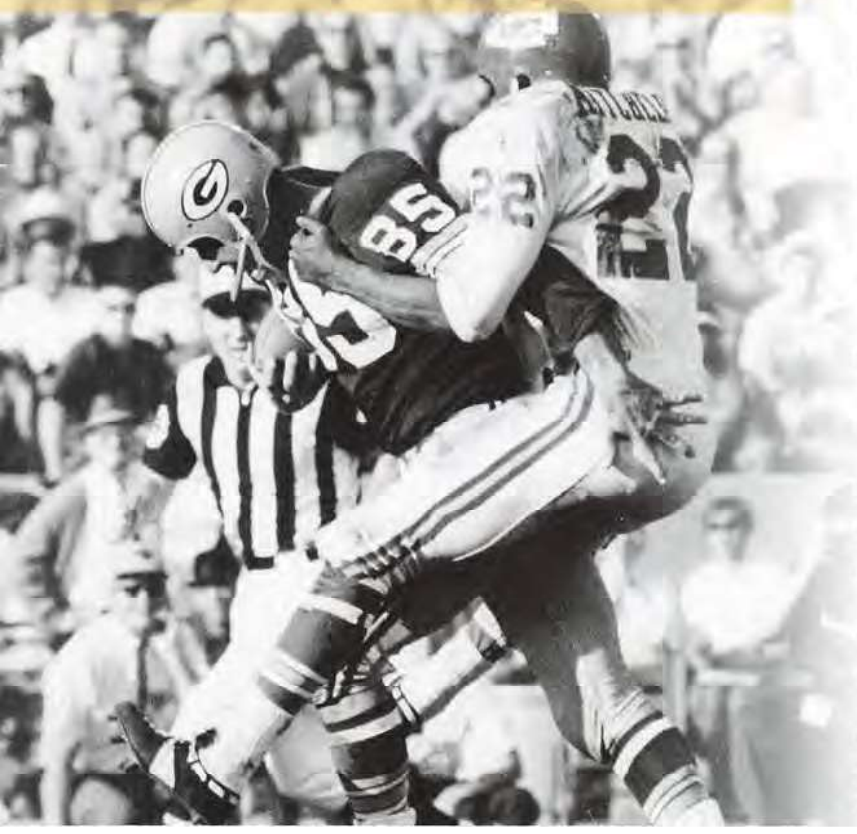
my personality and your looks, we are going places," McGee would say to the Golden Boy.

They liked the same things: pretty girls, nice clothes and good entertainment. They were big spenders. They liked going places and, of course, were recognized everywhere.

McGee was a carefree guy with a heart of gold. One day he loaned his new car to Nate Borden, a teammate, and he thought it had been stolen when it was not returned. He reported it to the police, and they called a few hours later and said Borden had crashed it into the front window of a Green Bay furniture store.

Instead of raising a storm, McGee simply asked, "So how much furniture did we buy?"

MCGEE HELPED THE PACKERS WIN FIVE NFL CHAMPIONSHIPS BY CATCHING 345 PASSES FOR 6,346 YARDS. HIS 18.4-YARD AVERAGE PER CATCH IS THE THIRD-HIGHEST IN TEAM HISTORY.



In his book, "Run to Daylight," Vince Lombardi wrote, "If Max were a perfectionist there is no telling how great a receiver he might be, but then, pressing all the time as perfectionists must, he would probably lose one of his greatest assets, his ability to relax. He can relax before, during and after a game, and it makes him a great clutch player, although it also contributes to his tendency to be a little careless."

Upon rookie end Bob Long's arrival in Green Bay, Lombardi told him, "This Max McGee is one of the greatest ends of all time, and I just want you to watch him and do everything he does."

"So I watched Max," Long said. "I tried to do everything he did. It wasn't so bad on the field, but those nights killed me."

McGee helped the Packers win five NFL championships by catching 345 passes for 6,346 yards. His 18.4-yard average per catch is the third highest in team history. He is also the team's 14th-highest scorer with 306 points on 51 touchdowns. He made the Pro Bowl once.

He was the heaviest-fined player for breaking rules during Lombardi's regime. What the heck? It was only money.

"Max was the type of guy Lombardi could fine and the entire team would accept it as no big thing," teammate Dave Robinson once said. "Everybody knows how much he liked him. Guys like me would think, if he's gonna fine Max a thousand dollars, what's he gonna do to me? So actually, he ended up fining fewer players less money than any coach I played for. He didn't have to fine them, and when he did, he put it in a fund and used it for a post-season party and Max said, 'Y'all have me to thank for this!' When McGee negotiated his next contract, Lombardi gave him back the money that he had been fined."

One time some NFL officials came to the Packers' training camp to give the team a test of the new rule changes. Lombardi warned the players that it was a tough test.

"I don't expect you to get all 20 answers right," Lombardi said. "I just took it and I missed two questions myself."

"Don't worry coach," McGee shouted. "They'll change those two rules."

Lombardi had an adversarial relationship with the media. Maxie, well, was Maxie – the only player who could speak back to the coach. For a sportswriter, he was as approachable as an insurance salesman.

It seemed like before every Super Bowl, the nation's media would call McGee and asked him to retell the story of how he stayed out all night before the first Super Bowl game between the Packers and Kansas City Chiefs. It was a story that never lost its appeal about an aging veteran who didn't figure to play, was hung over and became the toast of the sporting world the next day as he caught seven passes for 138 yards

and two touchdowns in leading the Packers to a 35-10 victory.

When I was writing the book "Magnificent Seven," McGee told me Lombardi never knew he stayed out all night before the Packers' biggest game.

"Until he died (in 1970) I never talked to him about it because I didn't want him to know," McGee said. "I wanted him to know that he always counted on his boys. Sometimes I think the emphasis of sneaking out is a little overrated."

He said playing with a hangover isn't bad. It would be tough the day after that.

"I'm glad I got to play when I did," McGee said in a 2002 interview. "I don't even like football anymore because every time a guy gets a hand in on a tackle, he's doing a back flip or pounding his chest.

"I played at a great time with some great guys. And even though the money wasn't close to what it's like today, we had a great time."

McGee had a second career in the NFL for two decades. In 1979, with Bart Starr as head coach, McGee teamed with Jim Irwin as the radio play-by-play team for the Packers Radio Network.

When Irwin picked up McGee in a rental car before every road game, he waited for the inevitable question: "'So, who we playing this week?'," Irwin recalled at McGee's funeral. "Which kind of gives you an idea of his advance preparation."

Irwin said McGee would announce a lot of great plays by "Bart Favre" or "Brett Starr." And like Hornung, who said he lost the best friend in his life, Irwin let go of McGee with sadness. "I miss my partner," Irwin said.

McGee also was a terrific businessman who came from the bottom of the economic barrel. A year after he retired, he became co-founder of the Mexican chain restaurant Chi Chi's. According to an article in Time magazine in 1982, McGee owned "some 150,000 Chi-Chi's shares worth about $4 million." By 1998, McGee sold his interests in the chain. Time reported in 2005 that McGee's worth "now is measured in the tens of millions of dollars."

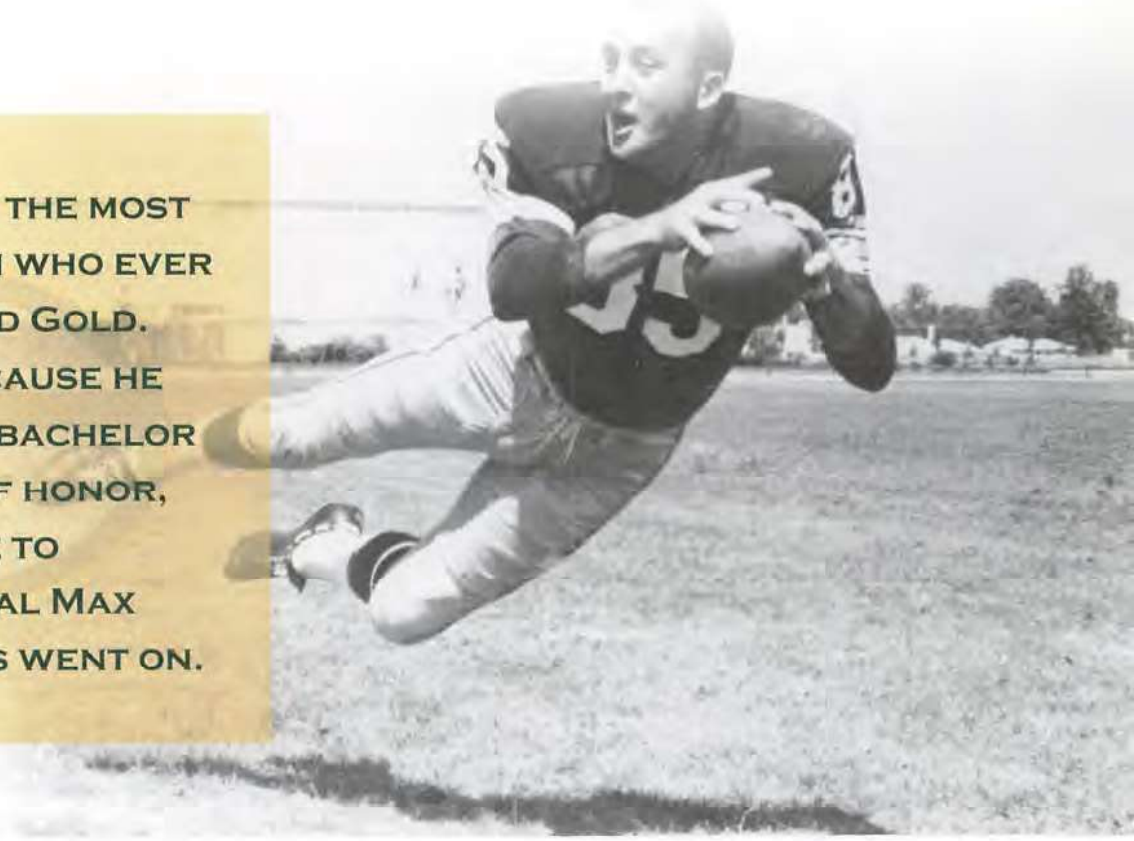
Chi-Chi's folded in 2004.

McGee died Oct. 20 after a fall from a ladder while blowing leaves off the roof of his Deephaven, Minn., home. It's still hard to believe he's gone.

How will history judge him? Max McGee was, in the narrowest and best and most exacting sense of the word, a lovable character and one of the most free-spirited athletes who ever played in the NFL.

Unforgettable.

HE ALSO WAS ONE OF THE MOST MISUNDERSTOOD MEN WHO EVER WORE THE GREEN AND GOLD. MISUNDERSTOOD BECAUSE HE WORE HIS CAREFREE BACHELOR DAYS LIKE A BADGE OF HONOR, USING IT AS A FAÇADE TO CAMOUFLAGE THE REAL MAX MCGEE AS THE YEARS WENT ON.



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PROTECTING THE PACKERS NO SMALL PRIORITY

Team's Popularity, Organizational Growth Increase Importance of Security Staff

By: Nathan Hager - Packers.com

When head coach Vince Lombardi asked Jerry Parins to work part-time as a security guard in the mid-1960s, he was essentially just looking for someone to help keep fans off the practice field on Oneida Street.

Now, over 40 years later, that is just one of many tasks that the Green Bay Packers security department is responsible for.

These days, Doug Collins, the team's Director of Corporate Security, along with Parins, the Packers Senior Security Advisor, lead a security staff that works around the clock on a daily basis.

According to Collins, just as the NFL and the Packers have grown, so has the teams security needs.

"Football has become a year-round sport," Collins explained. "It's not just an in-season thing. There are always players around, and our personnel department consistently brings individuals in on a tryout basis, which we help monitor. When the season ends we work on our emergency planning documents to make sure they are updated and accurate.

"In the offseason there is just a lot of administrative work that needs to be done to get you ready for the season because it arrives quickly."

Parins, who worked for the Green Bay Police Department as well as on a part-time basis for the team prior to taking over a full-time position with the organization in 1992, admits that these duties are quite different compared to when he started his career with the Packers.

"It really has changed," Parins said. "When I came aboard and prior to, the system was so quiet. When the season was done, there was nothing going on. Now security means something to everybody in this organization."

Collins echoed those thoughts.

"We host weddings and business meetings and obviously the public has access to our facilities almost every day," Collins explained. "So whether it's in the Pro Shop or it's tours, the Hall of Fame, Curly's Pub, we help out in some way. Even if it's just checking the bathroom facilities and keeping people in areas they belong in."

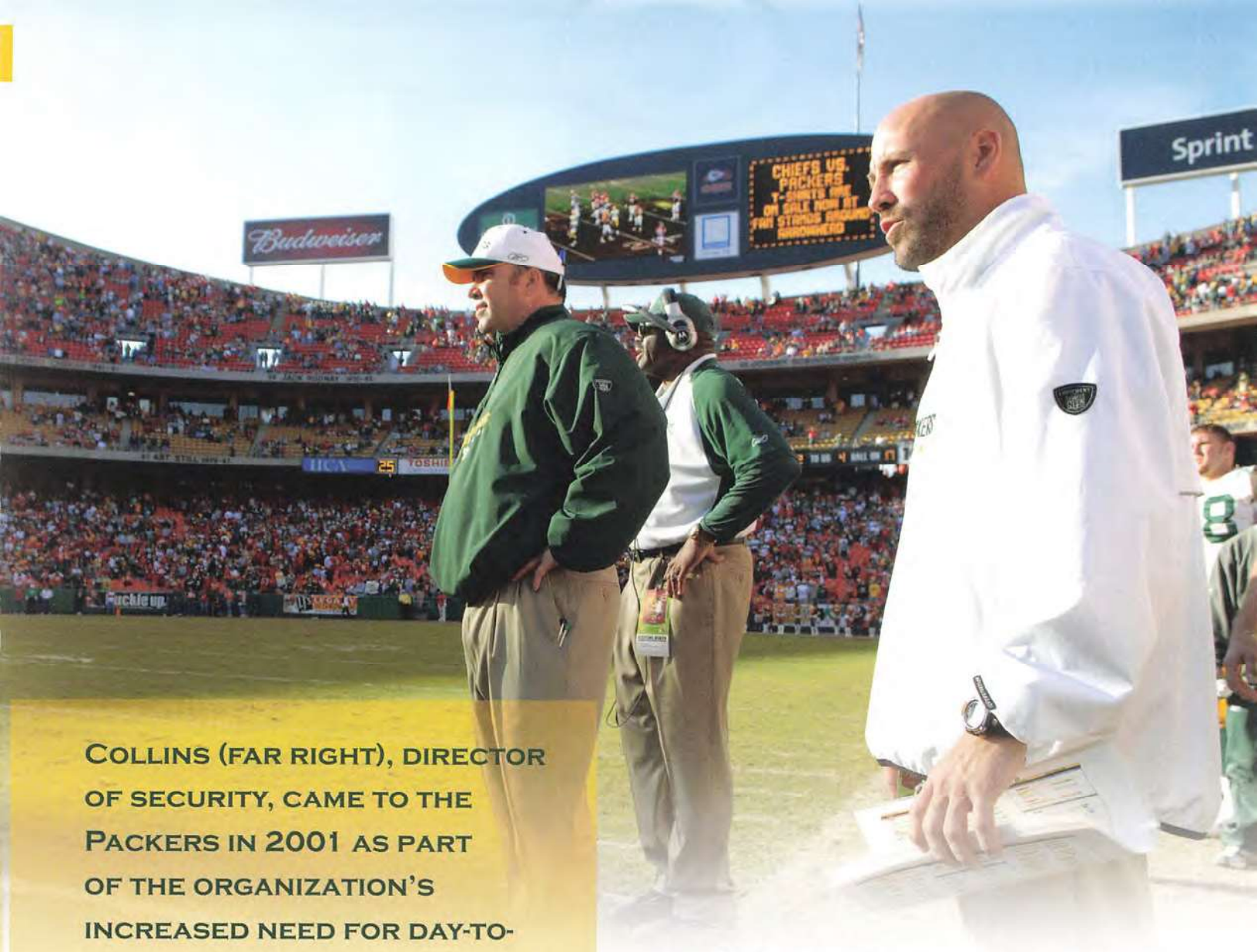
"We also check every load that comes in the loading dock. So there are a lot of things administratively and organizationally. We hire employees that aren't football related who we need to do background checks on and work with Levy Restaurants on their staff. It's definitely bigger than just the football team."

The demand for security increased since the renovation of Lambeau Field, which began in 2001. With the addition of the Atrium, the stadium suddenly became a year-round attraction and it also marked the start of Collins' career with the Packers. He previously worked with the Green Bay Police Department and was brought in by Parins to help assist with the "new" Lambeau Field. Now, Collins is the director of security, a job he has held for approximately a year.

Beyond the off-the-field duties, the security staff also plays a very important role for both home and away games, but when Parins took on a full-time position in '92, he said there wasn't much of a program in place on how to do things.

Parins now looks back at that time with a smile, admitting he really didn't know how his duties would play out. He also didn't even know if he would accompany the team on the road.

"I remember asking Coach Holmgren if I was going to travel," Parins recalled with a laugh. "And I was all excited



COLLINS (FAR RIGHT), DIRECTOR OF SECURITY, CAME TO THE PACKERS IN 2001 AS PART OF THE ORGANIZATION'S INCREASED NEED FOR DAY-TO-DAY SECURITY.

"FOOTBALL HAS BECOME A YEAR-ROUND SPORT," COLLINS EXPLAINED. "IT'S NOT JUST AN IN-SEASON THING. THERE ARE ALWAYS PLAYERS AROUND, AND OUR PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT CONSISTENTLY BRINGS INDIVIDUALS IN ON A TRYOUT BASIS, WHICH WE HELP MONITOR."

about that. He looked at me and said, 'Jerry, of course you're going to travel, you've got to take care of us.' It was a good thing that I was sitting down because I thought, 'Oh my gosh, this job is going to be bigger than I thought.'

"Fortunately I had the support of (general manager) Ron Wolf as well as Mike Holmgren and (former team president) Bob Harlan, who also hired me. It was all about taking care of people, learning the job, and learning the problems you have on the road. And gradually getting into what it really is like here on gameday and providing security and working with the services available to us in putting a game on here at Lambeau Field. It got big real fast, but you just go with the flow."

Going with the flow may sound easy enough, but ensuring the safety for a professional football team shouldn't be overlooked. And there have been a few challenges along the way including dealing with a sport that continues to grow as well as the tragedy that struck the country on September 11, 2001.

"Ever since then there has been a major emphasis put on protecting our fans and our stadium to ensure that doesn't happen again," Collins explained. "So there's things we do now that we didn't do back prior to 9/11. But I think there's

always been an emphasis that they didn't want anything to go wrong at stadiums from a fan enjoyment standpoint.

"I think there is a certain level of expectation from the fans and the officials coming in and visiting teams that we are doing our part to maintain a safe environment. And the pat downs are just expected. I think it's now just a part of the game that fans are getting used to."

There are at least three to five people working an eight-hour shift in the security department, including one in the overnight hours. And of course, making sure that the organization operates in a safe environment hasn't come cheap.

"The cost in our budget has pretty much skyrocketed since 9/11 in terms of things we need to do and man hours that need to be put in prior to the game, during the game and after the game," Collins said.

Though both Collins and Parins admitted that there is nothing quite like winning on the road and seeing everybody back home the next day, the job does require some long days.

For Collins, the dog days of training camp come to mind.

"We host the entire camp in our own facility, the guys are all here," Collins explained. "We want the fans to have that up-close, personal relationship with our players from biking and walking down to practice and having separate autograph sessions. And that just gets to be a very busy time.

"You have long days every day, all the way until bed check at 11:00 at night out at St. Norbert's and you're starting all over again at 6:00 the next morning all while trying to make sure the fans are having a good time, and that the players and coaches are comfortable."

All of this adds up to a very important job for the security staff, and in the more than 40 years Parins has spent with the team, he acknowledges that the demands are as high as they have ever been. Not that he'd want it any other way.

"I think keeping distractions for our organization during the football season and even away from the season is huge because I think the Packers have a tremendous tradition in the National Football League," Parins said. "Our fans are the best in the league and the Packers are a focus around here all the time. I think it's important how we take care of things.

"I think there's a lot of little things that our security department does, but they all add up."

Without question, the work of the Packers security department makes up one vastly important element in the success of an elite franchise.

PACKERS SECURITY KEEPS A WATCHFUL EYE ON EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS AT LAMBEAU FIELD.

PARINS, WHO GOT HIS START WITH THE PACKERS WORKING PART-TIME FOR LOMBARDI, SAYS THE PACKERS' SECURITY DUTY IS IMPORTANT TO EVERYONE AT 1265 LOMBARDI AVE.

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HISTORY OF TAILGATING

By Martin Hendricks

The game-day experience at Lambeau Field for many Green Bay Packers fans would not be complete without the cultural phenomenon known as tailgating.

Hours before the opening kickoff, thousands of fans partake in a ritual that dates back to the Olympic Games in 300 B.C.

The parking lot of Lambeau Field transforms into a colorful and aromatic city of vehicles - from campers and buses to cars and RVs - that serves as the center for literally thousands of individual gatherings that meld into one.

The sights, sounds, smells, and characters of tailgate parties are an integral part of a Packers game.

From the fanatics donning not only their favorite Green Bay jersey, but also a green-and-gold painted face to the din of the pre-game radio and television shows. From the toasting of alcoholic beverages to the tantalizing smell of grilled burgers and simmering chili. From tailgaters' favorites like the Packalope and Saint Vince to the visiting team fans making their first trip to the historic Frozen Tundra.

It all adds up to the Lambeau Field experience.

"Packer fans have developed tailgating to a fine art," said Lee Remmel, former Packers team historian. "There's a subtle competition between tailgaters, with the exotic fares and spreads on game days. Lambeau Field is a legitimate shrine, a special place that is a half-century old. And for many fans a big part of the game-day experience at Lambeau Field involves tailgating. They take great pleasure and pride in it."

Packers fans have since the infancy of the franchise.

As early as the 1920s, Green Bay supporters have congregated before the team's games at Bellevue Park to enjoy food, football, friends, and family. The popularity of tailgate gatherings grew over the decades as the Packers played at City Stadium in Green Bay through 1956 and at four different venues in Milwaukee.

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New City Stadium was constructed in 1957 at a cost of $960,000, and was later renamed Lambeau Field after the death of team founder and coach Earl "Curly" Lambeau in 1965.

In the ensuing five decades at Lambeau Field - the longest-tenured stadium in the National Football League - Packers fans developed a national reputation for their tailgating activities in a storied venue recognized among the finest in professional sports.

While the art of tailgating has become an American tradition, its roots date back over 2,000 years to the Olympic Games in 300 B.C.

Before the era of Weber grills, bratwurst, and station wagons and trucks with tailgates, rowdy all-male crowds assembled days before the games in Olympia to stake their claim to choice viewing spots and indulge in dancing, food, and drinking. Note: In Olympia, all athletes competed naked (except chariot drivers) and women were banned from participating or attending the games.

The ancient Greeks played a form of football called harpaston, which was passed on to England and later became the medieval game of calco, a favorite game of beer-drinking spectators and the betting public.

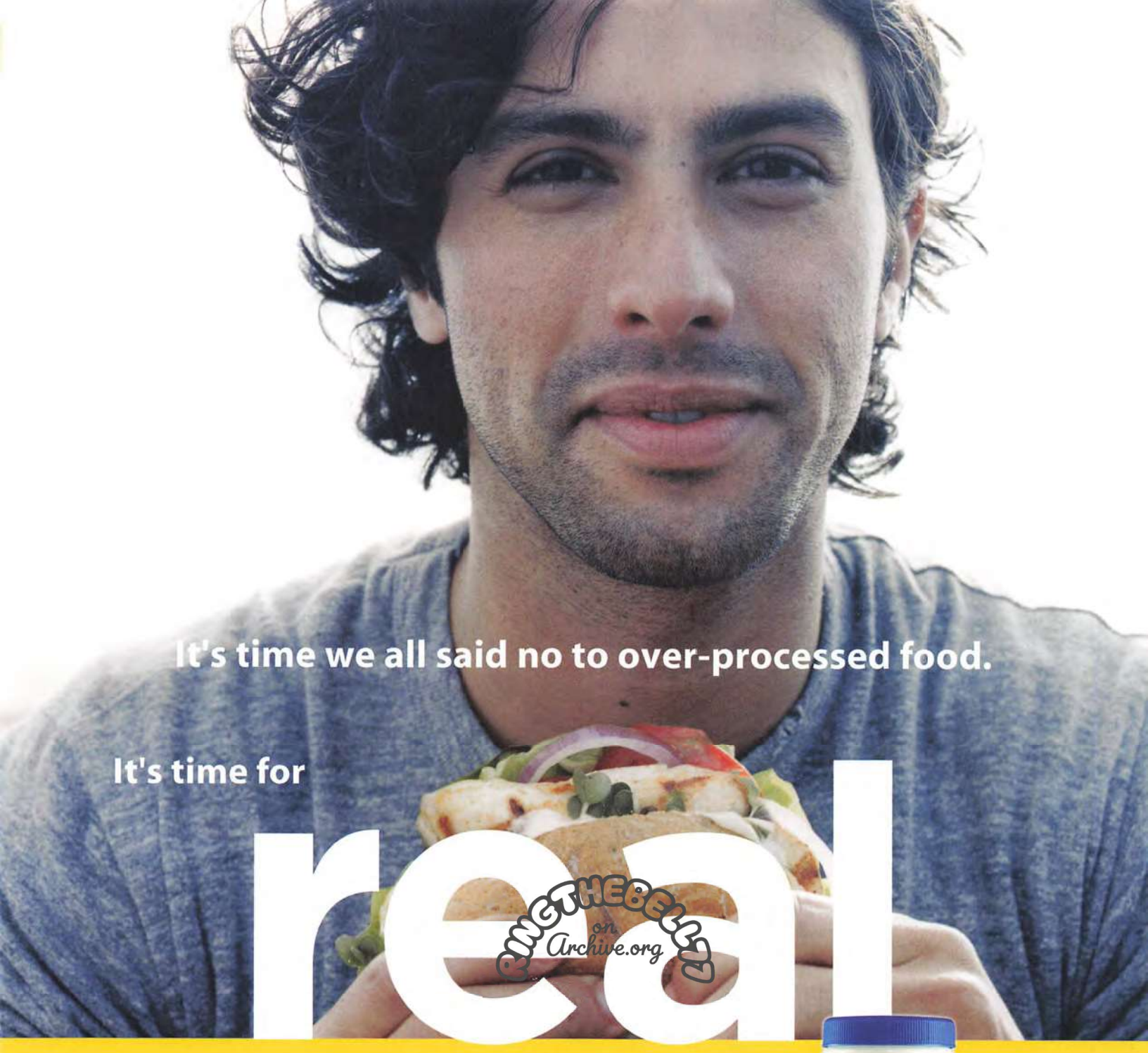
In the early 17th century, a crude version of the game of football was played on America's East Coast using a "ball" of inflated animal bladders. The sport spread to major colleges across the United States in the 1860s.

Historians also describe Union supporters arriving at Bull Run with picnic baskets, primed for eating and drinking while watching Civil War battles take place from a safe vantage point.

The first intercollegiate football game was played in 1869 between Rutgers and Princeton, and both institutions laid claim to have started collegiate tailgating. Fans attended the games in horse-drawn carriages carrying feasts of wild game and spirits, and began the pre-game festivities that would be later be known as "tailgating" with the advent of motorized vehicles.

Chris Warner, author of *A Tailgater's Guide to SEC Football*, was featured on the History Channel's documentary, "Tailgating", which aired in December 2003.

"Green Bay fans are known for their tailgating, and some were featured prominently on the History Channel's documentary," Warner said. "I have not yet been to Lambeau Field, but I know I'd enjoy it. I have to make it up there. I like the Packers and



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Brett Favre - he's a hero down here in the South."

A native of New Iberia, La., the 35-year-old Warner attended LSU and experienced the tradition of Tiger tailgating and SEC football. His older brother, Jeff, was a Cajun chef who cooked various Southern dishes at LSU tailgate parties - sparking the idea for Warner to write his book.

"I call my brother 'Jeff the Chef,'" Warner said. "His cooking made tailgating so festive, a first-class experience. Jeff serves big-time stuff like crawfish etouffee, shrimp and corn soup, Rebel Red Beans and rice, alligator sauce piquante. He was one of the main reasons I got the idea to write the book. It first came out in 2000, was updated twice, and another printing came out last fall. Tailgating is such a cultural phenomenon."

Warner said modern tailgating didn't become popular until the 1970s on college campuses and at pro football stadiums, and that it has gone high-tech today.

"It's difficult to nail down the etymology of the word, but it involved the use of tailgates on trucks with food and adult beverages at sporting events," Warner said. "People took their parties to the games and made the experience a day-long affair.

"Today, in this age of technology, we e-mail, instant text message, and have gotten away from talking face-to-face. At tailgate parties, it's all about people getting together, talking, sharing football, food and fun. With the popularity and staying power of college and professional football, tailgating continues to grow."

Joe Cahn, the self-proclaimed "Commissioner of Tailgating," is as close to an expert as you can get.

Since 1996, Cahn has traversed the country each year to attend tailgate parties before college and professional football games.

The 60-year-old New Orleans native and his pet cat, Sophie, have logged more than 500,000 miles in their "Joe Mobile" recreational vehicle to attend tailgate parties in all 48 of the continental United States. He's dined on boiled lobster in New England, brats in Green Bay, barbecue in Dallas, and smoked salmon in Seattle.

"It's the last great American neighborhood - the tailgating neighborhood," Cahn states on his website, www.tailgating.com. "Where no one locks their doors, everyone is happy to see you, and all are together sharing fun, food and football."

Even Packers players are intrigued by the festivities and activities in the Lambeau Field parking lot.

Former tackle Ken Ruettgers, a stalwart of the Green Bay offensive line from 1985-96, conducted a tour for friends and former teammates during Packer alumni weekend before the 2006 season-opener against Chicago.

"I wanted to show some of my friends and family what I refer to as the 'Packers' Super Heroes,'" Ruettgers said. "I gave a little tour of the Lambeau parking lot on game day to John Michels and his family, Lindsay Knapp and his family, and Don Beebe.

"I showed them the Packer Pope (Saint Vince) and his sidekick with the cheese bra, the Packalope, some guys cooking bear meat stew, and even some fans tailgating with chandeliers and live lobsters. I wanted them to see what the fans do while we were in preparing for the game. These guys really know how to have a good time and throw a tailgate party."

The "Commissioner of Tailgating" summed it up best: "It's like walking through thousands of backyards with no privacy fences," Cahn said. "Think about it - as you stroll around a stadium, the vehicle you drive is an extension of your backyard, which you've taken to the parking lot of the ballpark.

"Lambeau Field is a special place and Packer fans are the most hospitable people. Even people who don't have tickets to the game, who have been on the waiting list for 20 or 30 years, come out to tailgate and support their team. To me, Green Bay is what football and tailgating are all about."

References:
www.tailgating.com; Tailgating: The Colorful History of America's Biggest Sporting Pastime by Chris Warner; Two Thousand Years of Tailgating Traditions by Lucile Bayon Hume; New York Times.com article by Bernard Knox; Lee Remmel, former Green Bay Packers' team historian.

"LAMBEAU FIELD IS A SPECIAL PLACE AND PACKER FANS ARE THE MOST HOSPITABLE PEOPLE. EVEN PEOPLE WHO DON'T HAVE TICKETS TO THE GAME, WHO HAVE BEEN ON THE WAITING LIST FOR 20 OR 30 YEARS, COME OUT TO TAILGATE AND SUPPORT THEIR TEAM. TO ME, GREEN BAY IS WHAT FOOTBALL AND TAILGATING ARE ALL ABOUT." - JOE CAHN

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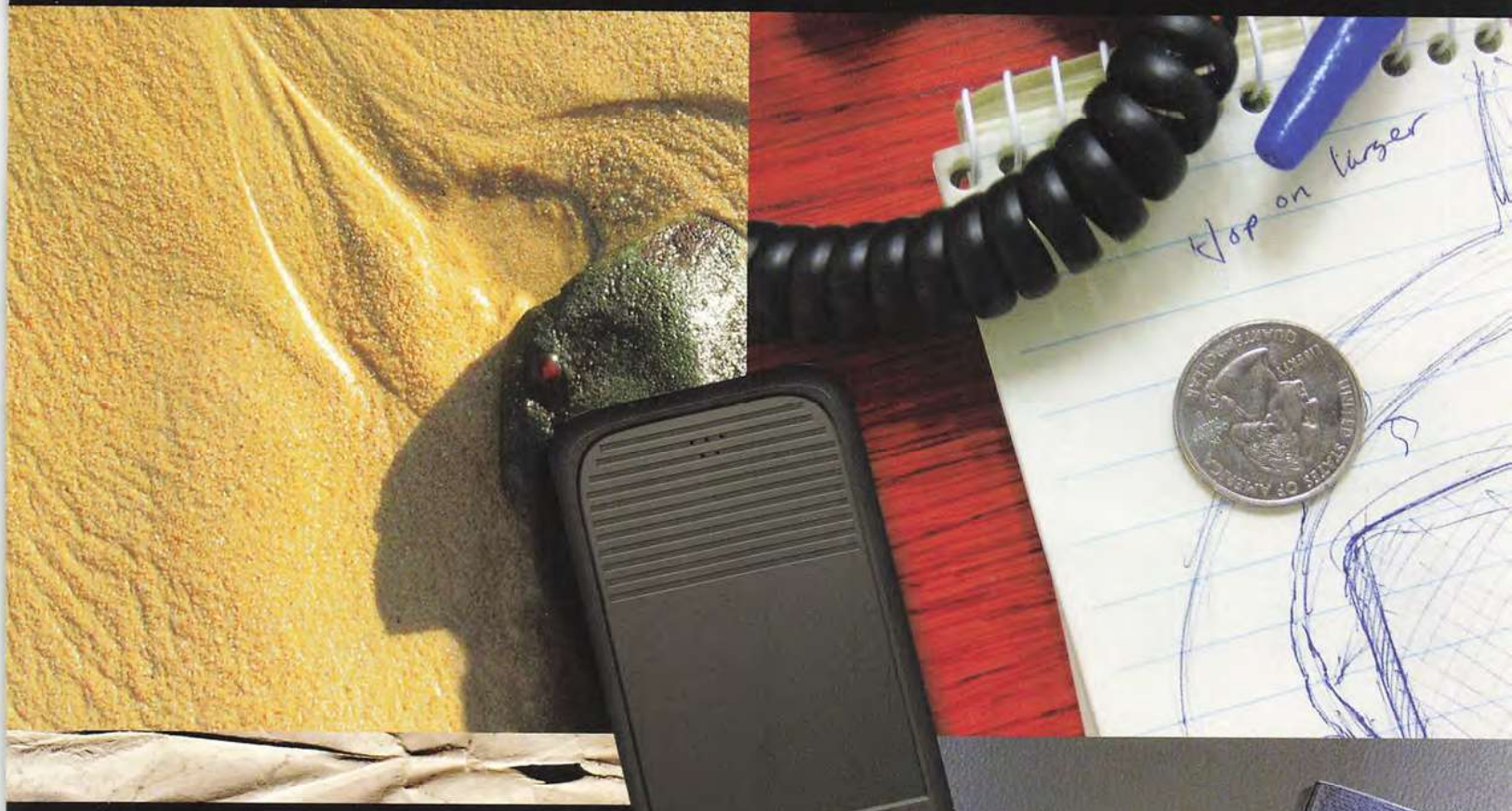

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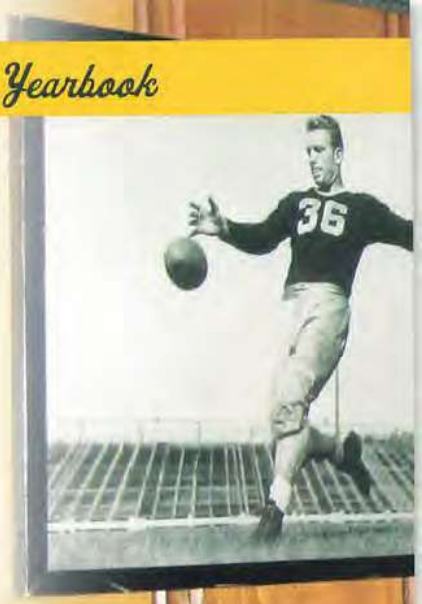

For all that he endured playing football, Van Every's life as a POW is what truly shaped him.

HAROLD VAN EVERY

Flight, Football and Fearlessness

By Martin Hendricks

Harold "Hal" Van Every's life changed at 20,000 feet over the Poland-Germany border on May 12, 1944.

While the Green Bay Packers were battling toward their sixth National Football League championship, Van Every was fighting for much more.

The former No. 1 draft choice of head coach Earl "Curly" Lambeau in 1940 was captured by German soldiers after his B-17 bomber was shot down near the Germany-Poland border.

Van Every and his nine-man crew parachuted out of their aircraft after flak took out an engine and the bomber started on fire. He landed on the roof of a house, injuring his back when jumping to the ground. Van Every ran for cover in nearby woods, but was quickly captured by German troops.

He became one of approximately 10,000 American and British prisoners at the Stalag Luft III compound in Sangan, approximately 100 miles southeast of Berlin.

Van Every, a strapping 6-foot-1, 200-pound back from the University of Minnesota, lost 50 pounds during his nearly year-long captivity. It would test him more than any athletic endeavor.

Van Every went to bed many nights thinking of his wife, Drexel, and sometimes of his Packers teammates. Food—or the lack of it—was almost always on his mind.

He would not find out that the Packers, who had defeated the New York Giants 14-7 at the Polo Grounds on December 17, had won the NFL title until several months later.

"It was pretty tough without my wife and football," Van Every said. "I was lucky to get out of there and make it back home. I was in good shape physically, except for my back. It was pretty rough going."

The living conditions at Stalag Luft III were better than most prisoner-of-war complexes and concentration camps, where Adolf Hitler had millions of Jews and other prisoners put to death.

Van Every kept a personal journal of his experiences in captivity, from the cold and overcrowded barracks with 12 men to a room, to the lack of food. "The Red Cross food packages saved us," he said.

He chronicled everything, from the week-long, 60-mile death march in sub-zero temperatures to Spremberg to the surreal ride in train box cars with sick and exhausted prisoners to a new camp in Nuremberg.

From the two-month nightmare at Nuremberg with rats, lice, and flea-ridden facilities to daily meals of "green death" soup and worm-infested vegetables. From the day—April 29, 1945—General George Patton's troop set them free as his Third Army pushed through the German lines to Munich to his joyous boat ride back home to the United States.

"Harold never missed a meal on that boat ride home," Drexel Van Every said. "He put some weight back on. He

told me you just don't know what it's like to go to bed night after night hungry. Harold was 26 years old, older than most pilots, who were 21 or 22. He was a firm Christian with a strong mind—always a very disciplined individual. That's how he was brought up."

Van Every's work ethic and dedication were developed early, as he had a paper route, caddied at a local golf course, and served as a lifeguard. He was born on Feb. 10, 1918, in Minnetonka Beach, Minn., in a very modest home.

After a stellar prep career at Wayzata High School, he excelled in both football and basketball at the University of Minnesota. Van Every played for legendary coach Bernie Bierman in the "Golden Era" of Gopher football, when Minnesota was a perennial national power.

Van Every earned team MVP honors in 1939, when he rushed for 733 yards to lead the Gophers. He also led the nation with nine interceptions. His statistics and play did not go unnoticed by Lambeau, who enjoyed drafting players from the highly successful Minnesota program.

Lambeau chose Van Every with the ninth overall selection in the 1940 NFL Draft, signing the all-purpose running back, defensive back, and punter to a $3,500 contract. The original one-page, typed document is framed on the family room wall of the Van Everys' Minneapolis home.

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Van Every said in an August 2007 interview, just five days before he died, that he was surprised Lambeau drafted him. "I was a little surprised being the Packers' No. 1 draft choice," Van Every said. "The Packers had a very good team, and I just tried to do my part. They had guys like Don Hutson and Clarke Hinkle and Cecil Isbell. I just did the best I could to help the team."

The rookie did just that, contributing to a talented squad that was the defending NFL champions. On offense, Van Every rushed for 154 yards on 38 attempts for a 4.1-yard average in a backfield that featured Hinkle, Isbell, Arnie Herber, Andy Uram, and Ed Jankowski.

Van Every also passed for four touchdowns, caught four passes for 41 yards, and punted 17 times for a 36.5-yard average. On defense, he added three interceptions and was a sure tackler.

He continued to shine in the 1941 season, when Green Bay went 10-1 and lost in a Western Division Playoff at Chicago, 33-14. Van Every was the team's third-leading scorer with 18 points, tied with talented rookie halfback Tony Canadeo. He rushed for 127 yards on 25 carries for a 5.1-yard average and two touchdowns.

Van Every caught one pass and threw for 195 yards, with 11 completions in 30 attempts. He punted four times and led the Packers with three interceptions, including a 91-yard return for a touchdown in a 54-7 romp over the Pittsburgh Steelers.

The versatile back scored the last touchdown in Green Bay's playoff loss to Chicago, on a 10-yard pass from Isbell. It would be the last game of his professional football career—thanks to World War II.

After the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor just a week before the Bears' contest on Dec. 7, 1941, Van Every knew he would soon be trading in his football uniform for military fatigues.

He was drafted into the Army by mistake earlier that year, but was transferred to the Air Corps when the move was corrected in 1942. He trained as a pilot in Sacramento, Calif., and stayed active in football by playing with the base team, the Second Air Force Bombers.

"CURLY ASKED ME TO PLAY FOOTBALL," HE SAID. "HE WANTED TO KNOW WHAT KIND OF SHAPE I WAS IN AND IF I WAS READY TO PLAY FOOTBALL OR NOT. I TOLD HIM IT WOULD BE TOUGH WITH MY BACK."

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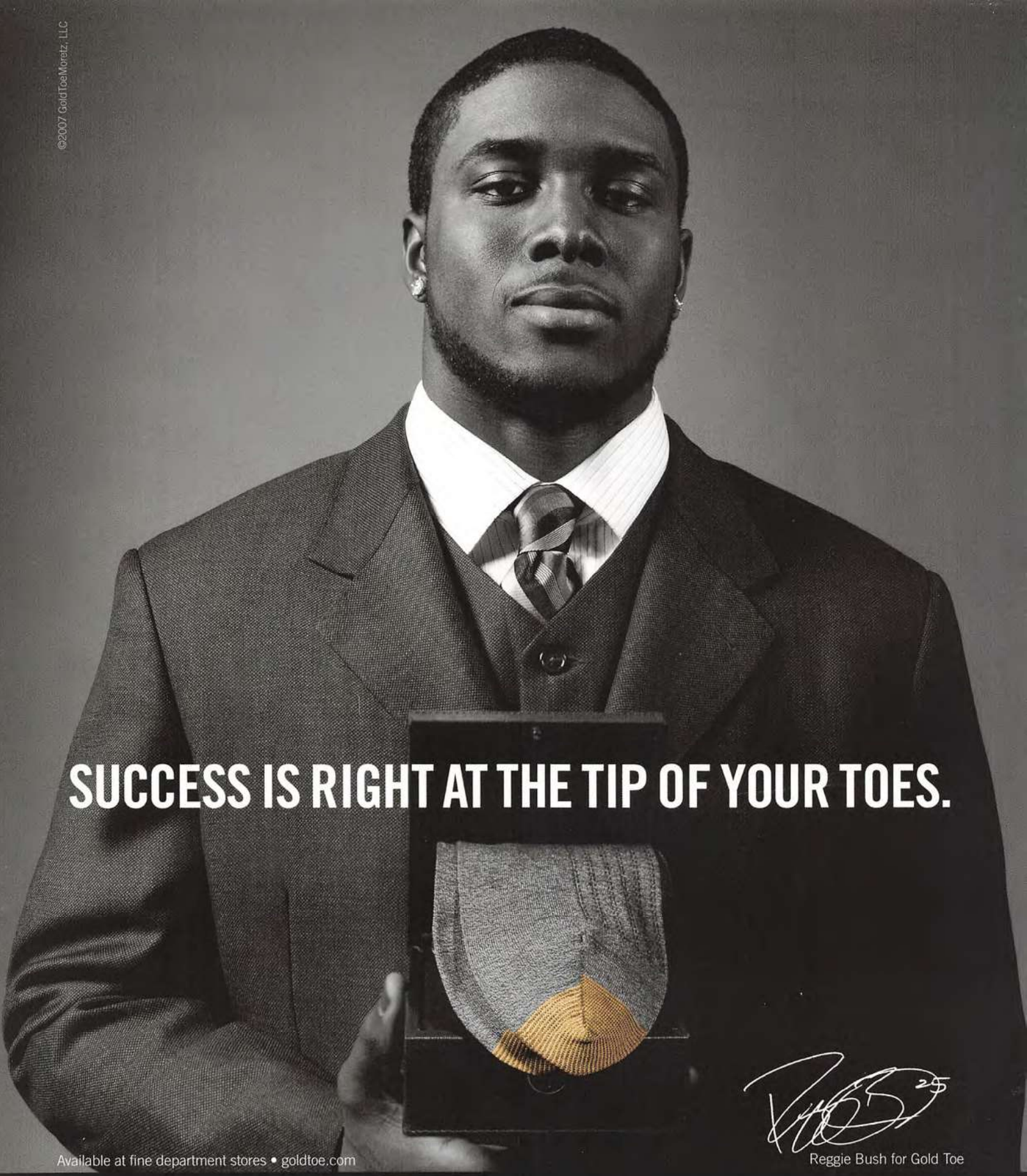

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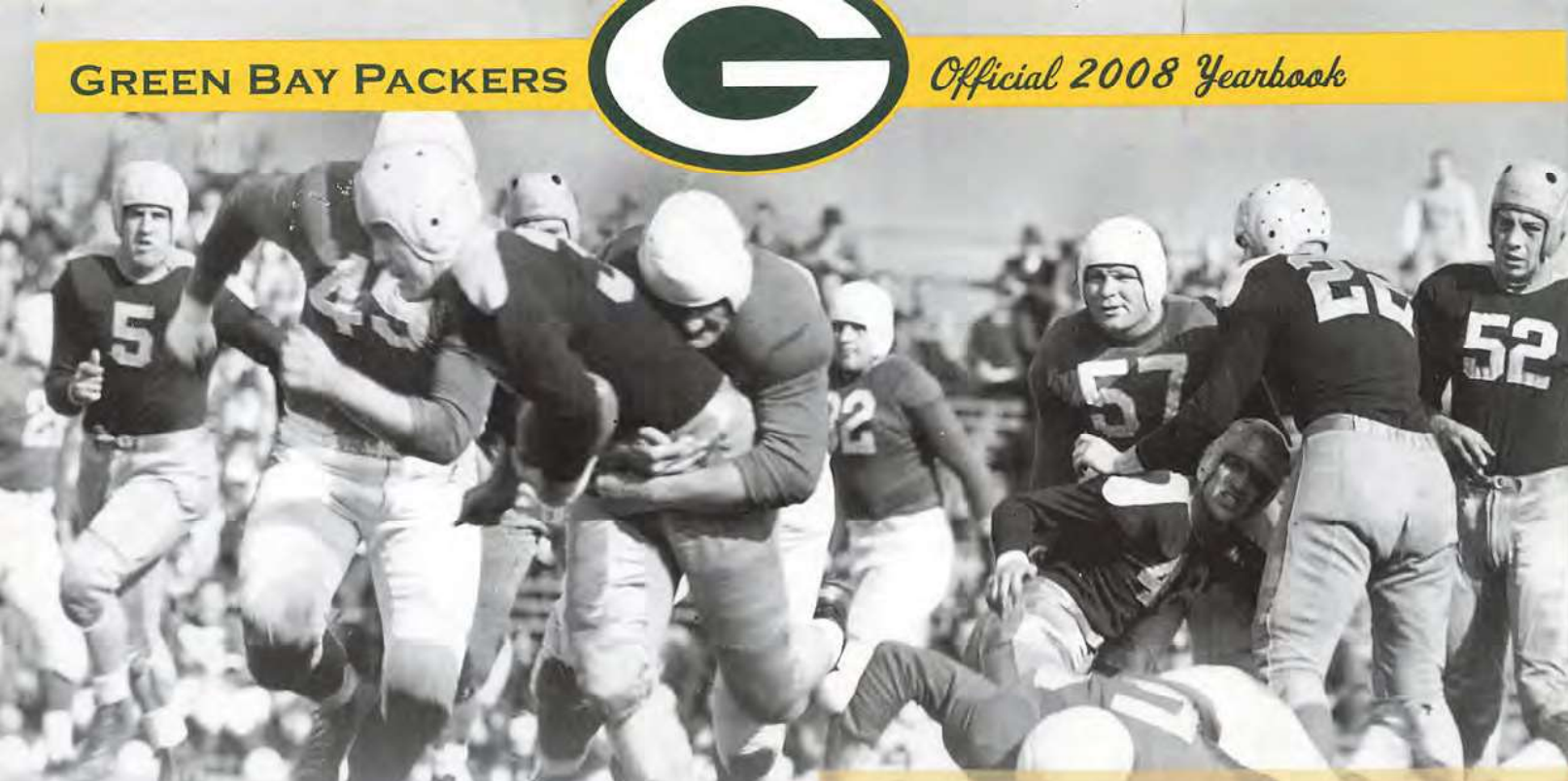

COLLEGE: UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
PACKERS TENURE: 1940-41
PACKERS HIGHLIGHTS: VERSATILE BACK AND DEFENSIVE BACK ON GREEN BAY SQUAD THAT WENT 10-1 IN 1941. LED PACKERS WITH THREE INTERCEPTIONS IN 1941, INCLUDING A 91-YARD RETURN FOR A TOUCHDOWN. PLAYED IN 20 REGULAR-SEASON GAMES IN GREEN BAY TENURE.
JERSEY NUMBER: 36
BORN: FEBRUARY 10, 1918, IN MINNETONKA BEACH, MINN.
DIED: AUGUST 11, 2007, IN MINNEAPOLIS.

Van Every was proud to serve his country, despite being away from the woman and sport he loved.

"You had to go on the front lines," he said. "It was pretty tough to leave my wife and football; it was no picnic. You don't complain—you do your job. It's your duty."

One day after earning his wings, he married Drexel in Carson City, Nev., on July 27, 1942. After a whirlwind honeymoon in Lake Tahoe, he returned to duty and by late 1943 was piloting a B-17 bomber out of Rattlesden Air Base in England.

Van Every was on his ninth bombing mission in May 1944, when his bomber was hit by German anti-aircraft fire. After returning to the United States following his POW ordeal, he met with Lambeau in a Chicago hotel to discuss the possibility of resuming his NFL career.

"Curly asked me to play football," he said. "He wanted to know what kind of shape I was in and if I was ready to play football or not. I told him it would be tough with my back."

Van Every required four operations over the next six decades to repair his back and alleviate the pain. He wore a corset-style back brace for support for more than 50 years as he developed a successful career in the insurance industry in Minneapolis.

Ardent University of Minnesota football and basketball supporters and Minnesota Vikings fans, the Van Everys were active with numerous charitable causes in the Twin Cities area. Harold enjoyed playing the piano, and was an excellent golfer—shooting his age just last summer, a few weeks before his death.

Drexel remembers her husband as a humble, generous man.

With his rookie salary, Van Every purchased a washing machine for his mother so she would no longer have to do laundry by hand. He had hot water supplied to his parents' upstairs bathroom with a portion of his second NFL season's earnings.

Drexel also kept meticulous scrapbooks of her husband's football and military careers, as more than 20 albums are stored in their family den. "What's so special about Harold is that he didn't ever think he was special," she said. "He was a very humble man and I miss him so much. It was a blessing for him to be with me at home in the end."

Harold Van Every, 89, died August 11, 2007, in his favorite easy chair, while watching the PGA Championship on television with Drexel in their living room.

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2007 REGULAR-SEASON STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	GB	Opp
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	**307**	**297**
Rushing	69	77
Passing	210	176
Penalty	28	44
3rd Down: Made/Att	86/202	69/209
3rd Down Pct.	42.6	33.0
4th Down: Made/Att	5/11	9/24
4th Down Pct.	45.5	37.5
POSSESSION AVG.	**30:19**	**29:41**
TOTAL NET YARDS	**5931**	**5013**
Avg. Per Game	370.7	313.3
Total Plays	985	994
Avg. Per Play	6.0	5.0
NET YARDS RUSHING	**1597**	**1647**
Avg. Per Game	99.8	102.9
Total Rushes	388	424
NET YARDS PASSING	**4334**	**3366**
Avg. Per Game	270.9	210.4
Sacked/Yards Lost	19/127	36/218
Gross Yards	4461	3584
Att./Completions	578/383	534/295
Completion Pct.	66.3	55.2
Had Intercepted	15	19
PUNTS/AVERAGE	**62/43.0**	**80/42.5**
Net Punting Avg.	62/37.6	80/33.8
PENALTIES/YARDS	**113/1006**	**118/908**
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	**25/9**	**17/9**
TOUCHDOWNS	**49**	**31**
Rushing	13	6
Passing	30	23
Returns	6	2

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS
PACKERS	86	128	112	103	6	435
OPPONENTS	56	102	57	76	0	291

SCORING	TD	Ru	Pa	Rt	PAT	FG	S	PTS
M. Crosby	0	0	0	0	48/48	31/39	0	141
G. Jennings	12	0	12	0			0	72
R. Grant	8	8	0	0			0	48
D. Lee	6	0	6	0			0	36
R. Martin	4	0	4	0			0	24
D. Wynn	4	4	0	0			0	24
B. Franks	3	0	3	0			0	18
W. Blackmon	2	0	0	2			0	12
D. Driver	2	0	2	0			0	12
J. Jones	2	0	2	0			0	12
C. Woodson	2	0	0	2			0	12
B. Jackson	1	1	0	0			0	6
K. Robinson	1	0	1	0			0	6
T. White	1	0	0	1			0	6
T. Williams	1	0	0	1			0	6
PACKERS	**49**	**13**	**30**	**6**	**48/48**	**31/39**	**0**	**435**
OPPONENTS	**31**	**6**	**23**	**2**	**29/29**	**24/27**	**0**	**291**

2-Pt conversions: PACKERS 0-0, OPP 2-2

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+
M. Crosby	1/1	8/8	10/11	9/14	3/5
PACKERS	**1/1**	**8/8**	**10/11**	**9/14**	**3/5**
OPPONENTS	**0/0**	**4/4**	**8/9**	**10/12**	**2/2**

M. Crosby: (53G,37G,42G) (42N) (28G) (28G,44G,33G) (37G,37G) (46N,37G,38N) (19G,26G) (48G,36G,52N,32G,45G) (39G,24G) (49B,49N,47G) (20G,20G,26G) (47G,52G) (43N,44G,52N) (44G,50G,25G,46G) ( ) (33G, 35G)

Opponents: (33G,47G) (34N,48G,32G) (44G) (44G,35G,48G) (44G,36G) ( ) (45G,21G) ( ) ( ) (26G) (47G,41G,45G,52G) (26G,51G,25G) (44N) (48N) (31G,35G) (35G, 38G)

PUNTING	No	Yds	Avg	Net	TB	In20	LG	Blk
J. Ryan	60	2664	44.4	37.6	11	18	72	2
PACKERS	**62**	**2664**	**43.0**	**37.6**	**11**	**18**	**72**	**2**
OPP.	**80**	**3397**	**42.5**	**33.8**	**10**	**22**	**61**	**0**

RUSHING	No	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
R. Grant	188	956	5.1	66t	8
B. Jackson	75	267	3.6	46	1
D. Wynn	50	203	4.1	44	4
V. Morency	29	108	3.7	15	0
A. Rodgers	7	29	4.1	13	0
B. Favre	29	12	0.4	21	0
J. Ryan	2	7	3.5	7	0
C. Nall	5	6	1.2	8	0
K. Robinson	1	5	5.0	5	0
D. Driver	2	4	1.0	5	0
PACKERS	**388**	**1597**	**4.1**	**66t**	**13**
OPPONENTS	**424**	**1647**	**3.9**	**55**	**6**

RECEIVING	No	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
D. Driver	82	1048	12.8	47	2
G. Jennings	53	920	17.4	82t	12
D. Lee	48	575	12.0	60	6
J. Jones	47	676	14.4	79t	2
V. Morency	30	199	6.6	18	0
R. Grant	30	145	4.8	21	0
K. Robinson	21	241	11.5	43	1
B. Franks	18	132	7.3	24	3
R. Martin	16	242	15.1	36	4
B. Jackson	16	130	8.1	16	0
D. Wynn	9	73	8.1	18	0
K. Hall	8	49	6.1	10	0
R. Krause	2	11	5.5	6	0
J. Kuhn	2	7	3.5	5	0
S. Bodiford	1	13	13.0	13	0
PACKERS	**383**	**4461**	**11.6**	**82t**	**30**
OPPONENTS	**295**	**3584**	**12.1**	**50**	**23**

INTERCEPTIONS	No	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
A. Bigby	5	50	10.0	22	0
C. Woodson	4	48	12.0	46t	1
N. Barnett	2	40	20.0	38	0
A. Rouse	2	37	18.5	34	0
A. Harris	2	17	8.5	17	0
T. Williams	1	22	22.0	22	0
A. Hawk	1	10	10.0	10	0
C. Williams	1	9	9.0	9	0
B. Poppinga	1	0	0.0	0	0
PACKERS	**19**	**233**	**12.3**	**46t**	**1**
OPPONENTS	**15**	**166**	**11.1**	**85t**	**1**

PUNT RETURNS	Ret	FC	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
C. Woodson	33	5	268	8.1	34	0
W. Blackmon	8	0	106	13.3	57t	1
T. Williams	6	0	118	19.7	94t	1
J. Bush	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
PACKERS	**48**	**5**	**492**	**10.3**	**94t**	**2**
OPPONENTS	**19**	**14**	**113**	**5.9**	**26**	**0**

KICKOFF RETURNS	No	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
T. Williams	30	684	22.8	65	0
K. Robinson	25	596	23.8	67	0
S. Bodiford	2	41	20.5	22	0
W. Blackmon	1	3	3.0	3	0
D. Driver	1	4	4.0	4	0
R. Martin	1	6	6.0	6	0
M. Montgomery	1	0	0.0	0	0
D. Wynn	1	15	15.0	15	0
PACKERS	**62**	**1349**	**21.8**	**67**	**0**
OPPONENTS	**77**	**1610**	**20.9**	**74**	**0**

PASSING	Att	Cmp	Yds	Cmp%	TD	Int	LG	Sck/Lst	Rtng
B. Favre	535	356	4155	66.5	28	15	82t	15/93	95.7
A. Rodgers	28	20	218	71.4	1	0	43	3/24	106.0
C. Nall	15	7	88	46.7	1	0	32t	1/10	87.6
PACKERS	**578**	**383**	**4461**	**66.3**	**30**	**15**	**82t**	**19/127**	**95.9**
OPPONENTS	**534**	**295**	**3584**	**55.2**	**23**	**19**	**50**	**36/218**	**75.6**

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RECORD BOOK & ALL-TIME TOP 20

SCORING

		TD	PAT	FG	PTS	YRS
1	Ryan Longwell	0	376	226	1,054	9
2	Don Hutson	105	172	7	823	11
3	Chris Jacke	0	301	173	820	8
4	Paul Hornung	62	190	66	760	9
5	Jim Taylor	91	0	0	546	9
6	Chester Marcol	1	155	120	521	9
7	Fred Cone	16	200	53	455	7
8	Ahman Green	67	0	0	402	7
9	Sterling Sharpe	66	0	0	396	7
10	Ted Fritsch	35	62	36	380	9
11	Clarke Hinkle	44	31	28	379	10
12	Antonio Freeman	57	0	0	346	8
13	Verne Lewellen	51	1	0	307	9
14	Max McGee	51	0	0	306	12
15	James Lofton	50	0	0	300	9
16	Jan Stenerud	0	115	59	292	4
17	Dorsey Levens	44	0	0	266	8
18	Al Del Greco	0	112	50	262	4
19	Don Chandler	0	117	48	261	3
20	Billy Howton	43	0	0	258	7

RUSHING

		ATT	YDS	AVG	YRS
1	Jim Taylor	1,811	8,207	4.5	9
2	Ahman Green	1,810	8,162	4.5	7
3	John Brockington	1,293	5,024	3.9	7
4	Tony Canadeo	1,025	4,197	4.1	11
5	Dorsey Levens	1,006	3,937	3.9	8
6	Clarke Hinkle	1,171	3,860	3.3	10
7	Gerry Ellis	836	3,826	4.6	7
8	Paul Hornung	893	3,711	4.2	9
9	Edgar Bennett	936	3,353	3.6	5
10	Donny Anderson	787	3,165	4.0	6
11	Eddie Lee Ivery	667	2,933	4.4	8
12	Tobin Rote	419	2,205	5.3	7
13	Ted Fritsch	620	2,200	3.5	9
14	Howie Ferguson	544	2,120	3.9	6
15	Tom Moore	503	2,069	4.1	6
16	Terdell Middleton	559	2,044	3.7	5
17	Floyd Reid	459	1,964	4.3	7
18	Barty Smith	544	1,942	3.6	7
19	Joe Laws	470	1,932	4.1	12
20	Brett Favre	555	1,786	3.2	16

RECEPTIONS

		NO	YDS	AVG	YRS
1	Sterling Sharpe	595	8,134	13.7	7
2	James Lofton	530	9,656	18.2	9
3	**Donald Driver**	**503**	**6,977**	**13.9**	**9**
4	Don Hutson	488	7,991	16.4	11
5	Boyd Dowler	448	6,918	15.4	11
6	Antonio Freeman	431	6,651	15.4	8
7	Ahman Green	347	2,708	7.8	7
8	Max McGee	345	6,346	18.4	12
9	Paul Coffman	322	4,223	13.1	8
10	William Henderson	320	2,409	7.5	12
11	Robert Brooks	306	4,225	13.8	7
12	Billy Howton	303	5,581	18.4	7
13	Carroll Dale	275	5,422	19.7	8
14	Dorsey Levens	271	2,079	7.7	8
15	Gerry Ellis	267	2,514	9.4	7
16	Bubba Franks	256	2,300	9.0	8
17	Edgar Bennett	242	1,920	7.9	5
18	Bill Schroeder	225	3,435	15.3	5
19	Ed West	202	2,321	11.5	11
20	Phillip Epps	192	2,884	15.0	7

RUSHING & RECEIVING

MOST YARDS FROM SCIMMAGE (CAREER)

10,870 Ahman Green (8,162 rush, 2,708 rec.)
9,901 James Lofton (245 rush, 9,656 rec.)
9,712 Jim Taylor (8,207 rush, 1,505 rec.)
8,275 Don Hutson (284 rush, 7,991 rec.)
8,206 Sterling Sharpe (72 rush, 8,134 rec.)

MOST YARDS FROM SCIMMAGE (SEASON)

2,250 Ahman Green, 2003 (1,883 rush, 367 rec.)
1,981 Ahman Green, 2001 (1,387 rush, 594 rec.)
1,805 Dorsey Levens, 1997 (1,435 rush, 370 rec.)
1,734 Ahman Green, 2000 (1,175 rush, 559 rec.)
1,715 Edgar Bennett, 1995 (1,067 rush, 648 rec.)

MOST YARDS FROM SCIMMAGE (GAME)

257 Billy Howton, vs. LARm, Oct. 21, 1956
237 Don Hutson, at Bkn., Nov. 21, 1943
227 Ahman Green, vs. Den., Dec. 28, 2003
224 Ahman Green, vs. Phi., Nov. 10, 2003
221 Jim Taylor, at LARm., Dec. 13, 1964

Jim Taylor owns several Packers rushing records.

RUSHING

MOST ATTEMPTS (CAREER)

1,811 Jim Taylor, 1958-1966 (9 sea.)
1,810 Ahman Green, 2000-06 (7 sea.)
1,293 John Brockington, 1971-77 (7 sea.)
1,171 Clarke Hinkle, 1932-41 (10 sea.)
1,025 Tony Canadeo, 1941-44, 46-52 (11 sea.)

MOST ATTEMPTS (SEASON)

355 Ahman Green, 2003 (16 games)
329 Dorsey Levens, 1997 (16 games)
316 Edgar Bennett, 1995 (16 games)
304 Ahman Green, 2001 (16 games)
286 Ahman Green, 2002 (14 games)

MOST ATTEMPTS (GAME)

39 Terdell Middleton, vs. Min., Nov. 26, 1978 (110 yds.)
33 Dorsey Levens, vs. DalC, Nov. 23, 1997 (190 yds.)
Ahman Green, at Car., Sept. 13, 2004 (119 yds.)
32 Jim Grabowski, vs. ChiB, Sept. 24, 1967 (111 yds.)
John Brockington, at Min., Nov. 17, 1974 (137 yds.)

MOST YARDS RUSHING (CAREER)

8,207 Jim Taylor, 1958-66 (9 sea.)
8,162 Ahman Green, 2000-06 (7 sea.)
5,024 John Brockington, 1971-77 (7 sea.)
4,197 Tony Canadeo, 1941-44, 46-52 (11 sea.)
3,937 Dorsey Levens, 1994-2001 (8 sea.)

MOST YARDS RUSHING (SEASON)

1,883 Ahman Green, 2003 (355 att.)
1,474 Jim Taylor, 1962 (272 att.)
1,435 Dorsey Levens, 1997 (329 att.)
1,387 Ahman Green, 2001 (304 att.)
1,307 Jim Taylor, 1961 (243 att.)

MOST YARDS RUSHING (GAME)

218 Ahman Green, vs. Den., Dec. 28, 2003 (20 att.)
192 Ahman Green, vs. Phi., Nov. 10, 2003 (29 att.)
190 Dorsey Levens, vs. DalC, Nov. 23, 1997 (33 att.)
186 Jim Taylor, vs. NYG, Dec. 3, 1961 (27 att.)
178 Najeh Davenport, vs. StLR, Nov. 29, 2004 (19 att.)

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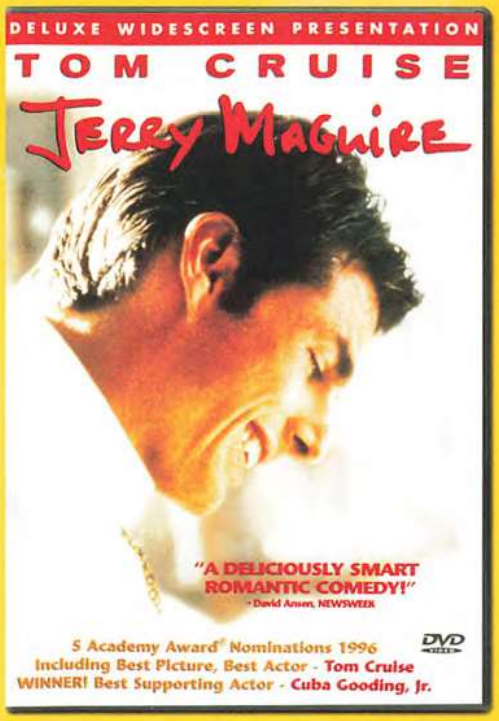
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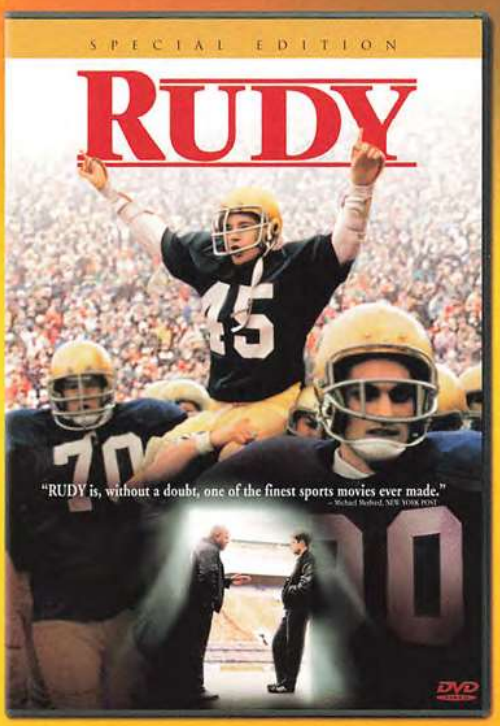

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Longest Runs

LONGEST RUN FROM SCRIMMAGE

98 Ahman Green, vs. Den., Dec. 28, 2003 (TD)
97 Andy Uram, vs. ChiC, Oct. 8, 1939 (TD)
90 Ahman Green, vs. DalC, Oct. 24, 2004 (TD)
84 Jim Taylor, vs. Det., Nov. 8, 1964 (TD)
83 James Lofton, at NYG, Sept. 20, 1982 (TD) (WR)
Ahman Green, vs. Det., Sept. 9, 2001 (TD)
80 Jessie Clark, at StLC, Sept. 29, 1985
77 Tom Moore, vs. Det., Sept. 22, 1963 (TD)
76 Terdell Middleton, vs. Det., Oct. 1, 1978 (TD)
Najeh Davenport, at StLR, Oct. 19, 2003 (TD)
73 Billy Grimes, at ChiB, Oct. 15, 1950 (TD)

LONGEST PUNT RETURN (ALL TDs)

95 Steve Odom, vs. ChiB, Nov. 10, 1974
94 Mark Lee, vs. NYG, Nov. 8, 1981
Tremon Williams, vs. Car., Nov. 18, 2007
93 Veryl Switzer, at ChiB, Nov. 7, 1954
92 Desmond Howard, at Det., Dec. 15, 1996

LONGEST KICKOFF RETURN (ALL TDs)

106 Al Carmichael, vs. ChiB, Oct. 7, 1956
104 Travis Williams, at LARm, Dec. 9, 1967
103 Herb Adderley, vs. BalC, Nov. 18, 1962
101 Dave Hampton, vs. Min., Oct. 4, 1970
Roell Preston, vs. Min., Oct. 5, 1998
100 Al Carmichael, at CleB, Oct. 23, 1955
Larry Krause, at Pit., Dec. 6, 1970
Aundra Thompson, vs. NYJ, Nov. 4, 1979
Roell Preston, vs. Det., Sept. 6, 1998

LONGEST INTERCEPTION RETURN (ALL TDs)

99 Tim Lewis, vs. LARm, Nov. 18, 1984
95 Nick Barnett, vs. NO, Oct. 9, 2005
94 Rebel Steiner, vs. ChiB, Oct. 1, 1950
91 Hal Van Every, at Pit., Nov. 23, 1941
90 LeRoy Butler, vs. SD, Sept. 15, 1996
Mike McKenzie, vs. ChiB, Dec. 7, 2003

LONGEST FUMBLE RETURN

88 Keith McKenzie, at Pit., Nov. 9, 1998 (TD)
76 Scott Stephen, at ChiB, Dec. 17, 1989
70 Mike Butler, vs. Min., Nov. 11, 1979 (TD)
68 George Cumby, vs. TB, Oct. 11, 1981
60 Henry Jordan, at DalC, Nov. 29, 1964 (TD)

Passing

MOST PASSES ATTEMPTED (CAREER)

*8,754 Brett Favre, 1992-2007 (16 sea.)
3,149 Bart Starr, 1956-71 (16 sea.)
2,831 Lynn Dickey, 1976-77, 1979-85 (9 sea.)
1,854 Tobin Rote, 1950-56 (7 sea.)
1,607 Don Majkowski, 1987-92 (6 sea.)

MOST PASSES ATTEMPTED (SEASON)

613 Brett Favre, 2006
607 Brett Favre, 2005
599 Don Majkowski, 1989
595 Brett Favre, 1999
582 Brett Favre, 1994

MOST PASSES ATTEMPTED (GAME)

61 Brett Favre, vs. SF, Oct. 14, 1996 (28 comp.)
59 Don Majkowski, at Det., Nov. 12, 1989 (34 comp.)
58 Brett Favre, at ChiB, Dec. 4, 2005 (31 comp.)
55 Brett Favre, vs. NO, Sept. 17, 2006 (31 comp.)
54 Randy Wright, vs. SF, Oct. 26, 1986 (30 comp.)
Brett Favre, at ChiB, Dec. 5, 1993 (36 comp.)

MOST PASSES COMPLETED (CAREER)

*5,377 Brett Favre, 1992-2007 (16 sea.)
1,808 Bart Starr, 1956-71 (16 sea.)
1,592 Lynn Dickey, 1976-77, 1979-85 (9 sea.)
889 Don Majkowski, 1987-92 (6 sea.)
826 Tobin Rote, 1950-56 (7 sea.)

MOST PASSES COMPLETED (SEASON)

372 Brett Favre, 2005 (attempted 607)
363 Brett Favre, 1994 (attempted 582)
359 Brett Favre, 1995 (attempted 570)
356 Brett Favre, 2007 (attempted 535)
353 Don Majkowski, 1989 (attempted 599)

MOST PASSES COMPLETED (GAME)

36 Brett Favre, at ChiB, Dec. 5, 1993 (54 att.)
35 Lynn Dickey, at TB, Oct. 12, 1980 (51 att.)
34 Don Majkowski, at Det., Nov. 12, 1989 (59 att.)
33 Brett Favre, at Atl., Oct. 4, 1992 (43 att.)
Brett Favre, at HouT, Nov. 21, 2004 (50 att.)
Brett Favre, vs. Min, Nov. 11, 2007 (46 att.)
32 Brett Favre, vs. CleB, Sept. 18, 2005 (44 att.)
Brett Favre, at Min, Sept. 20, 2007 (45 att.)

HIGHEST COMPLETION % (CAREER) (500 ATT.)

61.42% Brett Favre, 1992-2007 (5,377-8,754)
57.42% Bart Starr, 1956-71 (1,808-3,149)
56.23% Lynn Dickey, 1976-77, 1979-85 (1,592-2,831)
55.32% Don Majkowski, 1987-92 (889-1,607)
53.8% Randy Wright, 1984-88 (602-1,119)

HIGHEST COMPLETION % (SEASON) (140 ATT.)

66.54% Brett Favre, 2007 (356-535)
65.39% Brett Favre, 2003 (308-471)
64.12% Brett Favre, 1992 (302-471)
64.07% Brett Favre, 2004 (346-540)
63.74% Bart Starr, 1968 (109-171)

HIGHEST COMPLETION % (GAME) (20 ATT.)

90.48% Lynn Dickey, at NO, Dec. 13, 1981 (19-21)
87.10% Lynn Dickey, at HouO, Sept. 4, 1983 (27-31)
82.14% Brett Favre, at CleB, Nov. 19, 1995 (23-28)
81.48% Randy Wright, vs. TB, Sept. 11, 1988 (22-27)
80.00% Bart Starr, at SF, Dec. 13, 1959 (20-25)
Bart Starr, at SD, Oct. 12, 1970 (16-20)
Lynn Dickey, at Min., Dec. 16, 1984 (16-20)

Yards Passing

MOST YARDS PASSING (CAREER)

*61,655 Brett Favre, 1992-2007 (16 sea.)
24,718 Bart Starr, 1956-71 (16 sea.)
21,369 Lynn Dickey, 1976-77, 1979-85 (9 sea.)
11,535 Tobin Rote, 1950-56 (7 sea.)
10,870 Don Majkowski, 1987-92 (6 sea.)

MOST YARDS PASSING (SEASON)

4,458 Lynn Dickey, 1983 (484 att.)
4,413 Brett Favre, 1995 (570 att.)
4,318 Don Majkowski, 1989 (599 att.)
4,212 Brett Favre, 1998 (551 att.)
4,155 Brett Favre, 2007 (595 att.)

MOST YARDS PASSING (GAME)

418 Lynn Dickey, at TB, Oct. 12, 1980 (35 comp.)
410 Don Horn, vs. StLC, Dec. 21, 1969 (22 comp.)
402 Brett Favre, at ChiB, Dec. 5, 1993 (36 comp.)
399 Brett Favre, at Oak., Dec. 22, 2003 (22 comp.)
395 Brett Favre, vs. SF, Oct. 14, 1996 (28 comp.)

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MOST TOUCHDOWN PASSES (CAREER)
*442 Brett Favre, 1992-2007 (16 sea.)
152 Bart Starr, 1956-71 (16 sea.)
133 Lynn Dickey, 1976-77, 1979-85 (9 sea.)
89 Tobin Rote, 1950-56 (7 sea.)
66 Arnie Herber, 1930-40 (11 sea.)

MOST TOUCHDOWN PASSES (SEASON)
39 Brett Favre, 1996
38 Brett Favre, 1995
35 Brett Favre, 1997
33 Brett Favre, 1994
32 Lynn Dickey, 1983
Brett Favre, 2001
Brett Favre, 2003

MOST TOUCHDOWN PASSES (GAME)
5 Cecil Isbell, vs. ChiC, Nov. 1, 1942
Don Horn, vs. StLC, Dec. 21, 1969
Lynn Dickey, at NO, Dec. 13, 1981
Lynn Dickey, at HouO, Sept. 4, 1983
Brett Favre, vs. ChiB, Nov. 12, 1995
Brett Favre, vs. Min., Sept. 21, 1997
Brett Favre, at Car., Sept. 27, 1998

MOST PASSES HAD INTERCEPTED (CAREER)
*286 Brett Favre, 1992-2007 (16 sea.)
151 Lynn Dickey, 1976-77, 1979-85 (9 sea.)
138 Bart Starr, 1956-71 (16 sea.)
119 Tobin Rote, 1950-56 (7 sea.)
90 Arnie Herber, 1930-40 (11 sea.)

MOST PASSES HAD INTERCEPTED (SEASON)
29 Lynn Dickey, 1983 (484 att.)
Brett Favre, 2005 (607 att.)
25 Lynn Dickey, 1980 (478 att.)
24 Tobin Rote, 1950 (224 att.)
Brett Favre, 1993 (522 att.)

LONGEST PASS COMPLETION (ALL TDs)
*99 Brett Favre to Robert Brooks, at ChiB, Sept. 11, 1995
96 Tobin Rote to Billy Grimes, at SF, Dec. 10, 1950
95 Lynn Dickey to Steve Odom, at Min., Oct. 2, 1977
92 Arnie Herber to Don Hutson, vs. ChiC, Oct. 8, 1939
91 Bart Starr to Boyd Dowler, at LARm, Dec. 17, 1960

SHORTEST PASS COMPLETION (TD)
4 in. Cecil Isbell to Don Hutson, vs. CleR, Oct. 18, 1942

Pass Receiving

MOST RECEPTIONS (CAREER)
595 Sterling Sharpe, 1988-94 (7 sea.)
530 James Lofton, 1978-86 (9 sea.)
503 Donald Driver, 1999-2007 (9 sea.)
488 Don Hutson, 1935-45 (11 sea.)
448 Boyd Dowler, 1959-69 (11 sea.)

MOST RECEPTIONS (SEASON)
112 Sterling Sharpe, 1993 (16 games)
108 Sterling Sharpe, 1992 (16 games)
102 Robert Brooks, 1995 (16 games)
94 Sterling Sharpe, 1994 (16 games)
92 Donald Driver, 2006 (16 games)
90 Sterling Sharpe, 1989 (16 games)
89 Javon Walker, 2004 (16 games)
86 Donald Driver, 2005 (16 games)
84 Antonio Freeman, 1998 (15 games)
Donald Driver, 2004 (16 games)

MOST RECEPTIONS (GAME)
14 Don Hutson, at NYG, Nov. 22, 1942 (134 yds.)
13 Don Hutson, vs. CleR, Oct. 18, 1942 (209 yds.)
12 Ken Payne, at Den., Sept. 29, 1975 (167 yds.)
Vince Workman (RB), vs. Min., Sept. 6, 1992 (50 yds.)
11 Don Hutson, vs. Card-Pitt, Oct. 8, 1944 (207 yds.)
Bob Mann, at LARm, Dec. 16, 1951 (123 yds.)
Billy Howton, at BalC, Oct. 24, 1954 (147 yds.)
Eddie Lee Ivery (RB), at TB, Oct. 12, 1980 (128 yds.)
Gerry Ellis, at TB, Nov. 22, 1981 (76 yds.) (FB)
James Lofton, at Den., Oct. 15, 1984 (206 yds.)
Sterling Sharpe, at NYG, Nov. 8, 1992 (160 yds.)
Robert Brooks, vs. Pit., Dec. 24, 1995 (137 yds.)
Don Beebe, vs. SF, Oct. 14, 1996 (220 yds.)
Donald Driver, vs. Det., Nov. 10, 2002 (130 yds.)
Javon Walker, at Ind., Sept. 26, 2004 (200 yds.)
Javon Walker, vs. Jax., Dec. 19, 2004 (152 yds.)
Donald Driver, at Min., Dec. 24, 2004 (162 yds.)

MOST YARDS GAINED (CAREER)
9,656 James Lofton, 1978-86 (9 sea.)
8,134 Sterling Sharpe, 1988-94 (7 sea.)
7,991 Don Hutson, 1935-45 (11 sea.)
6,977 Donald Driver, 1999-2007 (9 sea.)
6,918 Boyd Dowler, 1959-69 (11 sea.)

MOST YARDS GAINED (SEASON)
1,497 Robert Brooks, 1995
1,461 Sterling Sharpe, 1992
1,424 Antonio Freeman, 1998
1,423 Sterling Sharpe, 1989
1,382 Javon Walker, 2004
1,361 James Lofton, 1984
1,300 James Lofton, 1983
1,295 Donald Driver, 2006

MOST YARDS GAINED (GAME)
257 Billy Howton, vs. LARm, Oct. 21, 1956 (7 rec.)
237 Don Hutson, at Bkn., Nov. 21, 1943 (8 rec.)
220 Don Beebe, vs. SF, Oct. 14, 1996 (11 rec.)
209 Don Hutson, vs. CleR, Oct. 18, 1942 (13 rec.)
207 Don Hutson, vs. ChiC, Nov. 1, 1942 (5 rec.)
Don Hutson, vs. Card-Pitt, Oct. 8, 1944 (11 rec.)

MOST TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS (CAREER)
99 Don Hutson, 1935-45 (11 sea.)
65 Sterling Sharpe, 1988-94 (7 sea.)
57 Antonio Freeman, 1995-2001, 2003 (8 sea.)
50 Max McGee, 1954, 1957-67 (12 sea.)
49 James Lofton, 1978-86 (9 sea.)

MOST TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS (SEASON)
18 Sterling Sharpe, 1994 (16 games)
17 Don Hutson, 1942 (11 games)
14 Antonio Freeman, 1998 (15 games)
13 Billy Howton, 1952 (12 games)
Sterling Sharpe, 1992 (16 games)
Robert Brooks, 1995 (16 games)
12 Billy Howton, 1956 (12 games)
Sterling Sharpe, 1989 (16 games)
Antonio Freeman, 1997 (16 games)
Javon Walker, 2004 (16 games)
Greg Jennings, 2007 (13 games)

MOST TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS (GAME)
4 Don Hutson, vs. Det., Oct. 7, 1945
Sterling Sharpe, at TB, Oct. 24, 1993
Sterling Sharpe, at DalC, Nov. 24, 1994

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Scoring

MOST POINTS (CAREER)

1,054 Ryan Longwell, 1997-2005 (9 sea.; 376 PAT, 226 FG)
823 Don Hutson, 1935-45 (11 sea.; 105 TDs, 172 PAT, 7 FG)
820 Chris Jacke, 1989-96 (8 sea.; 301 PAT, 173 FG)
760 Paul Hornung, 1957-62, 1964-66 (9 sea.; 62 TDs, 190 PAT, 66 FG)
546 Jim Taylor, 1958-66 (9 sea.; 91 TDs)

MOST POINTS (SEASON)

176 Paul Hornung, 1960 (15 TD, 41 PAT, 15 FG)
146 Paul Hornung, 1961 (10 TD, 41 PAT, 15 FG)
141 Mason Crosby, 2007 (48 PAT, 31 FG)
138 Don Hutson, 1942 (17 TD, 33 PAT, 1 FG)
131 Ryan Longwell, 2000 (32 PAT, 33 FG)

MOST POINTS (GAME)

33 Paul Hornung, vs. BalC, Oct. 8, 1961 (4 TDs, 6 PAT, 1 FG)
31 Don Hutson, vs. Det., Oct. 7, 1945 (4 TDs, 7 PAT)
30 Paul Hornung, at BalC, Dec. 12, 1965 (5 TDs)
28 Paul Hornung, vs. Min., Sept. 16, 1962 (3 TDs, 4 PAT, 2 FG)

Points After TDs

MOST (1-PT) POINTS AFTER TD (CAREER)

376 Ryan Longwell, 1997-2005
301 Chris Jacke, 1989-96
200 Fred Cone, 1951-57
190 Paul Hornung, 1957-62, 1964-66
172 Don Hutson, 1935-45

MOST (1-PT) POINTS AFTER TD (SEASON)

52 Jan Stenerud, 1983 (52 att.)
51 Chris Jacke, 1996 (53 att.)
Ryan Longwell, 2003 (51 att.)
48 Ryan Longwell, 1997 (48 att.)
Ryan Longwell, 2004 (48 att.)
Mason Crosby, 2007 (48 att.)

MOST (1-PT) POINTS AFTER TD (GAME)

8 Don Chandler, vs. Atl., Oct. 23, 1966
7 Don Hutson, vs. Det., Oct. 7, 1945
Paul Hornung, at CleB, Oct. 15, 1961
Paul Hornung, vs. ChiB, Sept. 30, 1962
Jerry Kramer, at Phi., Nov. 11, 1962
Don Chandler, vs. CleB, Nov. 12, 1967
Jan Stenerud, vs. TB, Oct. 2, 1983
Ryan Longwell, vs. Ari., Jan. 2, 2000
Ryan Longwell, vs. NO, Oct. 9, 2005

MOST 2-POINT CONVERSIONS (CAREER)(SINCE 1994)

2 Edgar Bennett, 1994-96
Antonio Freeman, 1995-2001, 2003
Bubba Franks, 2000-06
Donald Driver, 1999-2007
Robert Ferguson, 2001-06

MOST 2-POINT CONVERSIONS (SEASON)

2 Edgar Bennett, 1996
Bubba Franks, 2003

Scoring

MOST TOUCHDOWNS (CAREER)

105 Don Hutson, 1935-45 (11 sea.)
91 Jim Taylor, 1958-66 (9 sea.)
67 Ahman Green, 2000-06 (7 sea.)
66 Sterling Sharpe, 1988-94 (7 sea.)
62 Paul Hornung, 1957-62, 1964-66 (9 sea.)

MOST TOUCHDOWNS (SEASON)

20 Ahman Green, 2003
19 Jim Taylor, 1962
18 Sterling Sharpe, 1994
17 Don Hutson, 1942
16 Jim Taylor, 1961
15 Paul Hornung, 1960
Jim Taylor, 1964
14 Antonio Freeman, 1998

MOST TOUCHDOWNS (GAME)

5 Paul Hornung, at BalC, Dec. 12, 1965
4 Don Hutson, vs. Det., Oct. 7, 1945
Paul Hornung, vs. BalC, Oct. 8, 1961
Jim Taylor, at CleB, Oct. 15, 1961
Jim Taylor, at ChiB, Nov. 4, 1962
Jim Taylor, at Phi., Nov. 11, 1962
Donny Anderson, vs. CleB, Nov. 12, 1967
Terdell Middleton, vs. Sea., Oct. 15, 1978
Sterling Sharpe, at TB, Oct. 24, 1993
Sterling Sharpe, at DalC, Nov. 24, 1994
Dorsey Levens, vs. Ari., Jan. 2, 2000

Punting

MOST PUNTS (CAREER)

495 David Beverly, 1975-80 (37.9 gross avg.)
368 Don Bracken, 1985-90 (39.7 gross avg.)
315 Donny Anderson, 1966-71 (39.6 gross avg.)
308 Josh Bidwell, 2000-03 (41.1 gross avg.)
289 Craig Hentrich, 1994-97 (42.8 gross avg.)

MOST PUNTS (SEASON)

106 David Beverly, 1978 (35.5 gross avg.)
86 David Beverly, 1980 (38.2 gross avg.)
Paul McJulien, 1991 (40.4 gross avg.)
85 David Beverly, 1977 (39.9 gross avg.)
Bucky Scribner, 1984 (42.3 gross avg.)
Don Bracken, 1988 (38.7 gross avg.)

MOST PUNTS (GAME)

11 Clarke Hinkle, at ChiB, Dec. 10, 1933 (407 yds.)
Jug Girard, at ChiB, Oct. 15, 1950 (418 yds.)
Jug Girard, at LARm, Dec. 3, 1950 (402 yds.)

HIGHEST GROSS AVERAGE, PUNTING (SEASON) (35 PUNTS)

45.0 Craig Hentrich, 1997 (75 punts)
44.7 Jerry Norton, 1963 (51 punts)
44.5 Jon Ryan, 2006 (84 punts)
44.4 Jon Ryan, 2007 (60 punts)
44.1 Boyd Dowler, 1961 (38 punts)

LONGEST PUNT

90 Don Chandler, vs. SF, Oct. 10, 1965
78 Jack Jacobs, vs. ChiC, Oct. 10, 1948
75 Boyd Dowler, at Min., Oct. 22, 1961
Boyd Dowler, vs. SF, Oct. 21, 1962

Field Goals

MOST FIELD GOALS (CAREER)

226 Ryan Longwell, 1997-2005
173 Chris Jacke, 1989-96
120 Chester Marcol, 1972-80
66 Paul Hornung, 1957-62, 1964-66
59 Jan Stenerud, 1980-83

MOST FIELD GOALS (SEASON)

33 Chester Marcol, 1972 (48 att.)
Ryan Longwell, 2000 (38 att.)
31 Chris Jacke, 1993 (37 att.)
Mason Crosby, 2007 (39 att.)
29 Ryan Longwell, 1998 (33 att.)
28 Ryan Longwell, 2002 (34 att.)

MOST FIELD GOALS (GAME)

5 Chris Jacke, at LARd., Nov. 11, 1990
Chris Jacke, vs. SF, Oct. 14, 1996
Ryan Longwell, at Ari., Sept. 24, 2000

LONGEST FIELD GOAL

54 Chris Jacke, at Det., Jan. 2, 1994
Ryan Longwell, at Ten., Dec. 16, 2001
Dave Rayner, at Phi., Oct. 2, 2006

Punt Returns

MOST PUNT RETURN YDS (CAREER)

1,391 Willie Wood, 1960-71 (187 ret.)
968 Desmond Howard, 1996, 1999 (70 ret.)
903 Antonio Chatman, 2003-05 (110 ret.)
834 Billy Grimes, 1950-52 (63 ret.)
819 Phillip Epps, 1982-88 (100 ret.)

MOST PUNT RETURN YDS (SEASON)

*875 Desmond Howard, 1996 (58 ret.)
555 Billy Grimes, 1950 (29 ret.)
398 Roell Preston, 1998 (44 ret.)
381 Antonio Chatman, 2005 (45 ret.)
363 Charles Woodson, 2006 (41 ret.)

MOST PUNT RETURN YDS (GAME)

167 Desmond Howard, at Det., Dec. 15, 1996
129 Phillip Epps, vs. TB, Oct. 2, 1983
122 Robert Brooks, vs. LARm, Oct. 9, 1994
118 Desmond Howard, vs. SD, Sept. 15, 1996
113 Walter Stanley, at Det., Nov. 27, 1986

Kickoff Returns

MOST KICKOFF RETURN YDS (CAREER)

4,124 Steve Odom, 1974-79 (179 ret.)
3,907 Al Carmichael, 1953-58 (153 ret.)
3,080 Herb Adderley, 1961-69 (120 ret.)
2,084 Dave Hampton, 1969-71 (74 ret.)
2,058 Travis Williams, 1967-70 (77 ret.)

MOST KICKOFF RETURN YDS (SEASON)

1,497 Roell Preston, 1998 (57 ret.)
1,314 Dave Hampton, 1971 (46 ret.)
1,288 Allen Rossum, 2000 (50 ret.)
1,034 Steve Odom, 1975 (42 ret.)
927 Al Carmichael, 1956 (33 ret.)

MOST KICKOFF RETURN YDS (GAME)

256 Roell Preston, vs. Min., Oct. 5, 1998 (8 ret.)
211 Roell Preston, at Ind., Nov. 16, 1997 (7 ret.)
208 Harlan Huckleby, vs. Was., Oct. 17, 1983 (8 ret.)
194 Dave Hampton, vs. NYG, Sept. 19, 1971 (5 ret.)
189 Al Carmichael, vs. ChiB, Oct. 7, 1956 (5 ret.)
Dave Hampton, vs. NO, Nov. 28, 1971 (5 ret.)

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2007 PACKERS GAME-BY-GAME

GAME 1 - PHILADELPHIA

	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Philadelphia	0	10	3	0	-	13
Green Bay	10	0	3	3	-	16

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point)
Packers	1	13:10	T.White fumble recovery in end zone (M. Crosby kick)
Packers	1	9:35	M.Crosby 53 yd. Field Goal
Eagles	2	13:30	D.Akers 33 yd. Field Goal
Eagles	2	6:00	J.Avant 9 yd. pass from D.McNabb (D.Akers kick)
Eagles	3	8:15	D.Akers 47 yd. Field Goal
Packers	3	0:45	M.Crosby 37 yd. Field Goal
Packers	4	0:02	M.Crosby 42 yd. Field Goal

Philadelphia Eagles

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
B.Westbrook	20	85	4.3	11	0
D.McNabb	4	9	2.3	4	0
C.Buckhalter	4	5	1.3	5	0
T.Tapeh	1	4	4.0	4	0
Total	**29**	**103**	**3.6**	**11**	**0**

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
D.McNabb	33	15	184	1	37	1
Total	**33**	**15**	**184**	**1**	**37**	**1**

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
B.Westbrook	6	46	7.7	16	0
J.Avant	3	54	18.0	31	1
K.Curtis	2	53	26.5	37	0
L.Smith	2	14	7.0	10	0
R.Brown	1	14	14.0	14	0
C.Buckhalter	1	3	3.0	3	0
Total	**15**	**184**	**12.3**	**37**	**1**

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	LgTD
S.Brown	1	3	3.0	3 0
Total	**1**	**3**	**3.0**	**3 0**

Green Bay Packers

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
D.Jackson	15	40	2.7	9	0
D.Wynn	1	8	8.0	8	0
B.Favre	1	-2	-2.0	-2	0
Total	**17**	**46**	**2.7**	**9**	**0**

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
B.Favre	42	23	206	0	22	1
Total	**42**	**23**	**206**	**0**	**22**	**1**

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
D.Driver	6	66	11.0	22	0
B.Jackson	4	35	8.8	15	0
J.Jones	4	29	7.3	8	0
D.Lee	4	27	6.8	9	0
B.Franks	2	17	8.5	12	0
R.Martin	2	14	7.0	10	0
D.Wynn	1	18	18.0	18	0
Total	**23**	**206**	**9.0**	**22**	**0**

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	LgTD
N.Barnett	1	2	2.0	2 0
Total	**1**	**2**	**2.0**	**2 0**

	Eagles	Packers
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	13	10
TOTAL NET YARDS	283	215
NET YARDS RUSHING	103	46
NET YARDS PASSING	180	169
PENALTIES Number and Yards	8-76	6-35
TIME OF POSSESSION	31:48	28:12

GAME 2 - @ N.Y. GIANTS

	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Green Bay	0	7	7	21	-	35
N.Y. Giants	0	10	3	0	-	13

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point)
Packers	2	8:18	D.Wynn 6 yd. run (M.Crosby)
Giants	2	7:16	P.Burress 26 yd. pass from E.Manning (L.Tynes kick)
Giants	2	1:38	L.Tynes 48 yd. Field Goal
Packers	3	9:07	B.Franks 2 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Giants	3	4:22	L.Tynes 32 yd. Field Goal
Packers	4	13:33	D.Lee 3 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	4	11:41	D.Driver 10 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	4	4:12	D.Wynn 38 yd. run (M.Crosby kick)

Green Bay Packers

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	LgTD
D.Wynn	10	50	5.0	38t 2
B.Jackson	17	35	2.1	8 0
B.Favre	2	-2	-1.0	-1 0
Total	**29**	**83**	**2.9**	**38 2**

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
B.Favre	38	29	286	3	46	1
Total	**38**	**29**	**286**	**3**	**46**	**1**

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
D.Driver	8	73	9.1	19	1
J.Jones	4	75	18.8	46	0
D.Lee	4	35	8.8	14	1
B.Jackson	4	24	6.0	15	0
B.Franks	4	20	5.0	8	1
K.Hall	2	20	10.0	10	0
D.Wynn	2	18	9.0	10	0
R.Grant	1	21	21.0	21	0
Total	**29**	**286**	**9.9**	**46**	**3**

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	LgTD
C.Williams	1	9	9.0	9 0
Total	**1**	**9**	**9.0**	**9 0**

N.Y. Giants

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	LgTD
D.Ward	15	90	6.0	26 0
S.Moss	1	4	4.0	4 0
Total	**16**	**94**	**5.9**	**26 0**

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
E.Manning	29	16	211	1	40	1
A.Wright	6	1	12	0	12	0
J.Lorenzen	5	3	21	0	9	0
Total	**40**	**20**	**244**	**1**	**40**	**1**

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
J.Shockey	5	60	12.0	19	0
D.Ward	4	35	8.8	12	0
A.Mix	3	39	13.0	21	0
A.Toomer	2	48	24.0	40	0
P.Burress	2	32	16.0	25t	1
A.Bradshaw	1	11	11.0	11	0
S.Smith	1	10	10.0	10	0
M.Matthews	1	5	5.0	5	0
R.Droughns	1	4	4.0	4	0
Total	**25**	**248**	**9.9**	**24**	**1**

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	LgTD
G.Wilson	1	0	0.0	0 0
Total	**1**	**0**	**0.0**	**0 0**

	Packers	Giants
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	25	20
TOTAL NET YARDS	368	325
NET YARDS RUSHING	83	94
NET YARDS PASSING	285	231
PENALTIES Number and Yards	8-63	6-71
TIME OF POSSESSION	34:26	25:34

GAME 3 - SAN DIEGO

	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
San Diego	7	7	7	3	-	24
Green Bay	3	14	0	14	-	31

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point)
Chargers	1	7:07	V.Jackson 27 yd. pass from P.Rivers (N.Kaeding kick)
Packers	1	2:40	M.Crosby 28 yd. Field Goal
Packers	2	11:53	D.Driver 5 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	2	2:48	B.Franks 5 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Chargers	2	:32	C.Davis 9 yd. pass from P.Rivers (N.Kaeding kick)
Chargers	3	9:02	L.Tomlinson 21 yd. pass from P.Rivers (N.Kaeding kick)
Packers	4	2:03	G.Jennings 57 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	4	:59	B.Jackson 1 yd. run (M.Crosby kick)
Chargers	4	:20	N.Kaeding 44 yd. Field Goal

San Diego Chargers

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
L.Tomlinson	22	62	2.8	11	0
M.Turner	4	12	3.0	9	0
L.Neal	1	0	0.0	0	0
P.Rivers	1	-1	-1.0	-1	0
Total	**28**	**73**	**2.6**	**11**	**0**

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
P.Rivers	36	27	306	3	27t	1
Total	**36**	**27**	**306**	**3**	**27t**	**1**

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
A.Gates	11	113	10.3	26	0
V.Jackson	6	98	16.3	27t	1
C.Davis	4	31	7.8	12	1
L.Tomlinson	3	33	11.0	21t	1
L.Neal	2	6	3.0	4	0
M.Floyd	1	25	25.0	25	0
Total	**27**	**306**	**11.3**	**27t**	**3**

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	LgTD
Total				

Green Bay Packers

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
B.Jackson	6	22	3.7	8	1
R.Grant	3	10	3.3	5	0
D.Wynn	2	9	4.5	5	0
B.Favre	2	1	0.5	2	0
Total	**13**	**42**	**3.2**	**8**	**1**

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
B.Favre	45	28	369	3	57t	0
Total	**45**	**28**	**369**	**3**	**57t**	**0**

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
D.Driver	6	126	21.0	46	1
J.Jones	6	79	13.2	26	0
G.Jennings	4	82	20.5	57t	1
D.Lee	4	44	11.0	18	0
B.Jackson	3	22	7.3	16	0
D.Wynn	3	14	4.7	9	0
B.Franks	1	5	5.0	5t	1
R.Grant	1	-3	-3.0	-3	0
Total	**28**	**369**	**13.2**	**57t**	**3**

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	LgTD
N.Barnett	1	38	38.0	38 0
Total	**1**	**38**	**38.0**	**38 0**

	Chargers	Packers
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	25	20
TOTAL NET YARDS	364	405
NET YARDS RUSHING	73	42
NET YARDS PASSING	291	363
PENALTIES Number and Yards	8-70	5-38
TIME OF POSSESSION	32:15	27:45

GAME 4 - @ MINNESOTA

	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Green Bay	7	3	3	10	-	23
Minnesota	0	6	3	7	-	16

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point)
Packers	1	4:56	G.Jennings 16 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Vikings	2	5:19	R.Longwell 44 yd. Field Goal
Vikings	2	1:56	R.Longwell 35 yd. Field Goal
Packers	2	0:02	M.Crosby 28 yd. Field Goal
Packers	3	6:04	M.Crosby 44 yd. Field Goal
Vikings	3	3:18	R.Longwell 48 yd. Field Goal
Packers	4	12:44	M.Crosby 33 yd. Field Goal
Packers	4	5:46	J.Jones 33 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Vikings	4	1:55	S.Rice 15 yd. pass from K.Holcomb (R.Longwell kick)

Green Bay Packers

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	LgTD
D.Wynn	10	20	2.0	3 0
R.Grant	3	17	5.7	15 0
J.Ryan	1	7	7.0	7 0
V.Morency	1	2	2.0	2 0
B.Favre	4	1	0.3	3 0
D.Driver	1	-1	-1.0	-1 0
Total	**20**	**46**	**2.3**	**15 0**

Minnesota Vikings

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	LgTD
A.Peterson	12	112	9.3	55 0
C.Taylor	8	40	5.0	37 0
J.Dugan	1	3	3.0	3 0
K.Holcomb	1	0	0.0	0 0
Total	**22**	**155**	**7.0**	**55 0**

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
B.Favre	45	32	344	2	36	0
Total	**45**	**32**	**344**	**2**	**36**	**0**

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
D.Driver	7	58	8.3	14	0
D.Lee	4	66	16.5	27	0
J.Jones	4	49	12.3	33t	1
B.Franks	4	30	7.5	12	0
G.Jennings	3	43	14.3	18	1
V.Morency	3	33	11.0	18	0
R.Martin	2	52	26.0	36	0
D.Wynn	2	10	5.0	7	0
R.Grant	2	1	0.5	1	0
K.Hall	1	2	2.0	2	0
Total	**32**	**344**	**10.8**	**36**	**2**

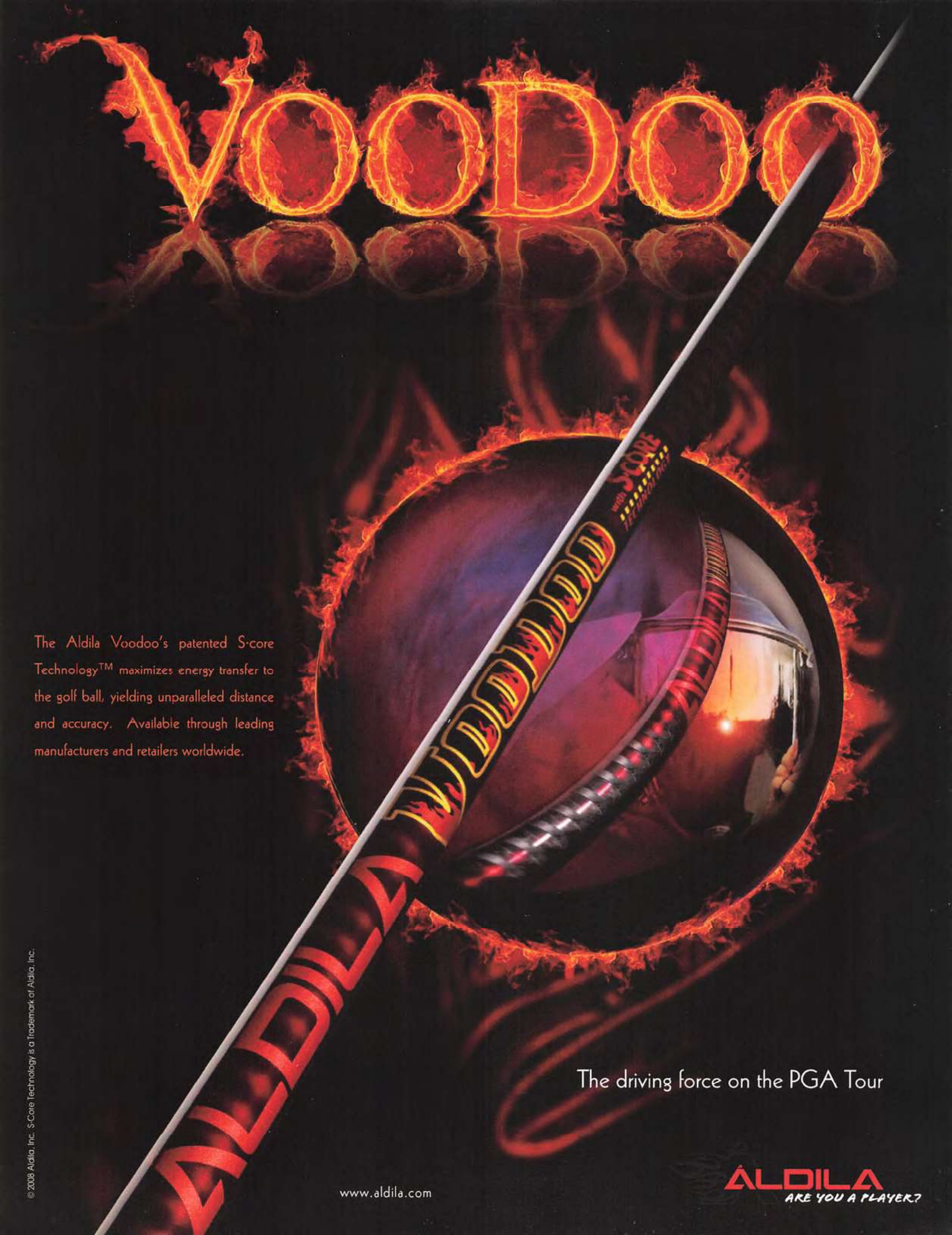
Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	LgTD
A.Bigby	1	1	1.0	1 0
Total	**1**	**1**	**1.0**	**1 0**

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
K.Holcomb	39	21	258	1	40	1
Total	**39**	**21**	**258**	**1**	**40**	**1**

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
S.Rice	6	75	12.5	15t	1
B.Wade	5	83	16.6	40	0
V.Shiancoe	4	38	9.5	15	0
T.Williamson	2	23	11.5	16	0
J.Dugan	1	13	13.0	13	0
C.Taylor	1	11	11.0	11	0
T.Richardson	1	9	9.0	9	0
A.Peterson	1	6	6.0	6	0
Total	**21**	**258**	**12.3**	**40**	**1**

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	LgTD
Total				

	Packers	Vikings
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	20	20
TOTAL NET YARDS	384	382
NET YARDS RUSHING	46	155
NET YARDS PASSING	338	227
PENALTIES Number and Yards	6-40	7-40
TIME OF POSSESSION	30:58	29:02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GAME 5 - CHICAGO

	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Chicago	0	7	10	10	-	27
Green Bay	7	10	3	0	-	20

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point)
Packers	1	11:01	D.Wynn 2 yd. run (M.Crosby kick)
Bears	2	7:52	C.Benson 10 yd. run (R.Gould kick)
Packers	2	4:55	G.Jennings 41 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	2	0:01	M.Crosby 37 yd. Field Goal
Bears	3	12:03	R.Gould 44 yd. Field Goal
Packers	3	9:02	M.Crosby 37 yd. Field Goal
Bears	3	4:19	G.Olsen 19 yd. pass from B.Griese
Bears	4	14:13	R.Gould 36 yd. Field Goal
Bears	4	2:05	D.Clark 34 yd. pass from B.Griese (R.Gould kick)

Chicago Bears

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
C.Benson	27	64	2.4	11	1
A.Peterson	3	12	4.0	5	0
D.Hester	1	5	5.0	5	0
G.Wolfe	1	2	2.0	2	0
B.Griese	1	-1	-1.0	-1	0
Total	33	82	2.5	11	1

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
B.Griese	25	15	214	2	34t	1
Total	25	15	214	2	34t	1

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
G.Olsen	4	57	14.3	27	1
D.Clark	3	62	20.7	34t	1
A.Peterson	2	32	16.0	30	0
M.Muhammad	1	17	17.0	17	0
M.Bradley	1	17	17.0	17	0
B.Berrian	1	10	10.0	10	0
R.Davis	1	8	8.0	8	0
J.McKie	1	6	6.0	6	0
C.Benson	1	5	5.0	5	0
Total	15	214	14.3	34t	2

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
B.Urlacher	1	0	0.0	0	0
B.McGowan	1	0	0.0	0	0
Total	2	0	0.0	0	0

Green Bay Packers

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
D.Wynn	13	78	6.0	44	1
V.Morency	9	43	4.8	15	0
Total	22	121	5.5	44	1

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
B.Favre	40	29	322	1	41t	2
Total	40	29	322	1	41t	2

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
V.Morency	7	48	6.9	17	0
J.Jones	5	61	12.2	23	0
G.Jennings	4	83	20.8	41t	1
D.Driver	4	51	12.8	26	0
D.Lee	3	23	7.7	8	0
B.Franks	3	18	6.0	7	0
R.Martin	1	18	18.0	18	0
D.Wynn	1	13	13.0	13	0
R.Grant	1	7	7.0	7	0
Total	29	322	11.1	41t	1

Intercept.	No	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD
B.Poppinga	1	0	0.0	0	0
Total	1	0	0.0	0	0

	Bears	Packers
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	16	18
TOTAL NET YARDS	285	439
NET YARDS RUSHING	82	121
NET YARDS PASSING	203	318
PENALTIES Number and Yards	6-40	12-93
TIME OF POSSESSION	29:30	30:30

GAME 6 - WASHINGTON

	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Washington	7	7	0	0	-	14
Green Bay	7	0	10	0	-	17

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point)
Packers	1	8:16	D.Wynn 3 yd. run (M.Crosby kick)
Redskins	1	3:43	J. Campbell 6 yd. run (S.Suisham kick)
Redskins	2	1:11	C.Cooley 14 yd. pass from J.Campbell (S.Suisham kick)
Packers	3	3:03	M.Crosby 37 yd. Field Goal
Packers	3	2:05	C.Woodson 57 yd. fumble return (M.Crosby kick)

Washington Redskins

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
C.Portis	20	64	3.2	13	0
M.Sellers	3	14	4.7	6	0
L.Betts	3	10	3.3	7	0
J.Campbell	2	6	3.0	6t	1
S.Moss	1	0	0.0	0	0
Total	29	94	3.2	13	1

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
J.Campbell	37	21	217	1	28	1
Total	37	21	217	1	28	1

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
C.Cooley	9	105	11.7	28	1
C.Portis	3	25	8.3	21	0
L.Betts	3	21	7.0	11	0
A.Randle El	2	30	15.0	18	0
K.McCardell	2	30	15.0	21	0
T.Yoder	1	5	5.0	5	0
M.Sellers	1	1	1.0	1	0
Total	21	217	10.3	28	1

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
S.Taylor	2	15	7.5	15	0
R.McIntosh	0	-4	-4.0	-4	0
Total	2	11	5.5	15	0

Green Bay Packers

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
D.Wynn	13	37	2.8	7	1
V.Morency	4	11	2.8	6	0
B.Favre	3	8	2.7	7	0
Total	20	56	2.8	7	1

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
B.Favre	37	19	188	0	60	2
Total	37	19	188	0	60	2

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
D.Driver	5	38	7.6	15	0
V.Morency	5	23	4.6	9	0
D.Lee	3	75	25.0	60	0
G.Jennings	3	20	6.7	8	0
K.Hall	2	14	7.0	7	0
R.Martin	1	18	18.0	18	0
Total	19	188	9.9	60	0

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
C.Woodson	1	0	0.0	0	0
Total	1	0	0.0	0	0

	Redskins	Packers
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	18	13
TOTAL NET YARDS	304	225
NET YARDS RUSHING	94	56
NETYARDS PASSING	210	169
PENALTIES Number and Yards	7-53	4-35
TIME OF POSSESSION	32:48	27:12

GAME 7 - @ DENVER

	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Green Bay	7	6	0	0	6	19
Denver	7	0	3	3	0	13

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point)
Broncos	1	3:52	T.Scheffler 5 yd. pass from J.Cutler (J.Elam kick)
Packers	1	3:29	J.Jones 79 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	2	7:15	M.Crosby 19 yd. Field Goal
Packers	2	1:26	M.Crosby 26 yd. Field Goal
Broncos	3	3:00	J.Elam 45 yd. Field Goal
Broncos	4	0:00	J.Elam 21 yd. Field Goal
Packers	5	14:44	G.Jennings 82 yd. pass from B.Favre

Green Bay Packers

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
R.Grant	22	104	4.7	24	0
V.Morency	2	8	4.0	8	0
D.Wynn	1	1	1.0	1	0
B.Favre	2	-8	-4.0	-1	0
Total	27	105	3.9	24	0

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
B.Favre	27	21	331	2	82t	0
Total	27	21	331	2	82t	0

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
G.Jennings	6	141	23.5	82t	1
J.Jones	3	107	35.7	79t	1
D.Lee	3	34	11.3	14	0
D.Driver	3	28	9.3	17	0
R.Grant	3	7	2.3	8	0
V.Morency	2	12	6.0	9	0
K.Hall	1	2	2.0	2	0
Total	21	331	15.8	82t	2

Denver Broncos

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
S.Young	18	71	3.9	18	0
A.Hall	3	10	3.3	6	0
J.Cutler	3	7	2.3	7	0
Total	24	88	3.7	18	0

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
J.Cutler	34	21	264	1	35	0
B.Marshall	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	34	21	264	1	35	0

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
S.Young	6	49	8.2	24	0
B.Stokley	5	71	14.2	22	0
B.Marshall	3	74	24.7	35	0
T.Scheffler	3	28	9.3	12	1
D.Graham	2	20	10.0	12	0
G.Martinez	1	18	18.0	18	0
C.Sapp	1	4	4.0	4	0
Total	21	264	12.6	35	1

	Packers	Broncos
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	20	24
TOTAL NET YARDS	430	332
NET YARDS RUSHING	105	88
NET YARDS PASSING	325	244
PENALTIES Number and Yards	13-103	9-63
TIME OF POSSESSION	30:41	29:35

GAME 8 - @ KANSAS CITY

	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Green Bay	0	6	7	20	-	33
Kansas City	0	7	0	15	-	22

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point)
Packers	2	14:52	M.Crosby 48 yd. Field Goal
Packers	2	1:19	M.Crosby 36 yd. Field Goal
Chiefs	2	0:15	L.Johnson 1 yd. run (D.Rayner kick)
Packers	3	0:11	G.Jennings 13 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Chiefs	4	11:11	L.Johnson 30 yd. pass from D.Huard (D.Rayner kick)
Packers	4	8:52	M.Crosby 32 yd. Field Goal
Chiefs	4	5:18	T.Gonzalez 17 yd. pass from D.Huard
Packers	4	3:05	G.Jennings 60 yd. pass from B.Favre
Packers	4	1:40	M.Crosby 45 yd. Field Goal
Packers	4	0:59	C.Woodson 46 yd. interception return

Green Bay Packers

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
R.Grant	19	55	2.9	12	0
B.Jackson	5	18	3.6	1	0
V.Morency	1	6	6.0	6	0
B.Favre	2	-1	-0.5	0	0
Total	27	78	2.9	12	0

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
B.Favre	34	24	360	2	60t	2
Total	34	24	360	2	60t	2

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
D.Driver	5	99	19.8	44	0
D.Lee	4	78	19.5	48	0
R.Grant	4	37	9.3	15	0
G.Jennings	3	85	28.3	60t	2
J.Jones	3	32	10.7	12	0
K.Robinson	3	18	6.0	11	0
R.Krause	2	11	5.5	6	0
Total	24	360	15.0	60t	2

Kansas City Chiefs

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
L.Johnson	19	53	2.8	10	1
P.Holmes	3	8	2.7	3	0
Total	22	61	2.8	10	1

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
D.Huard	32	19	213	2	30t	2
Total	32	19	213	2	30t	2

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
T.Gonzalez	10	109	10.9	25	1
L.Johnson	3	42	14.0	30t	1
J.Webb	2	26	13.0	13	0
S.Parker	2	22	11.0	12	0
P.Holmes	1	8	8.0	8	0
K.Wilson	1	6	6.0	6	0
Total	19	213	11.2	30	2

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
C.Woodson	1	46	46.0	46t	1
A.Hawk	1	10	10.0	10	0
Total	2	56	28.0	46t	1

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
P.Surtain	1	23	23.0	23	0
B.Sapp	1	15	15.0	15	0
Total	2	38	19.0	23	0

	Packers	Chiefs
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	19	20
TOTAL NET YARDS	432	234
NET YARDS RUSHING	78	61
NET YARDS PASSING	354	173
PENALTIES Number and Yards	13-115	6-55
TIME OF POSSESSION	32:07	27:53

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GAME 9 - MINNESOTA

	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Minnesota	0	0	0	0	-	0
Green Bay	7	6	14	7	-	34

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point)
Packers	1	7:18	R.Grant 30 yd. run (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	2	6:30	M.Crosby 39 yd. Field Goal
Packers	2	0:00	M.Crosby 24 yd. Field Goal
Packers	3	9:29	D.Lee 1 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	3	2:24	R.Martin 8 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	4	5:38	R.Martin 17 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)

Minnesota Vikings

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
A.Peterson	11	45	4.1	12	0
C.Taylor	3	37	12.3	23	0
B.Bollinger	1	4	4.0	4	0
Total	15	86	5.7	23	0

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
B.Bollinger	26	16	176	0	50	1
Total	26	16	176	0	50	1

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
R.Ferguson	6	59	9.8	35	0
A.Peterson	3	14	4.7	11	0
C.Taylor	2	59	29.5	50	0
B.Wade	2	29	14.5	15	0
V.Shiancoe	1	7	7.0	7	0
T.Richardson	1	4	4.0	4	0
A.Allison	1	4	4.0	4	0
Total	16	176	11.0	50	0

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	LgTD
Total				

Green Bay Packers

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
R.Grant	25	119	4.8	30t	1
B.Jackson	4	1	0.3	6	0
B.Favre	1	1	1.0	1	0
A.Rodgers	2	-1	-0.5	0	0
Total	32	120	3.8	30t	1

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
B.Favre	46	33	351	3	37	0
A.Rodgers	2	2	17	0	15	0
Total	48	35	368	3	37	0

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
K.Robinson	5	45	9.0	16	0
R.Grant	5	20	4.0	6	0
D.Driver	4	63	15.8	24	0
G.Jennings	4	63	15.8	34	0
R.Martin	4	57	14.3	25	2
D.Lee	4	27	6.8	10	1
J.Jones	3	62	20.7	37	0
V.Morency	3	11	3.7	6	0
B.Jackson	2	14	7.0	13	0
K.Hall	1	6	6.0	6	0
Total	35	368	10.5	37	3

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	LgTD
C.Woodson	1	2	2.0	2 0
Total	1	2	2.0	2 0

	Vikings	Packers
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	11	29
TOTAL NET YARDS	247	488
NET YARDS RUSHING	86	120
NET YARDS PASSING	161	368
PENALTIES Number and Yards	5-51	4-35
TIME OF POSSESSION	19:20	40:40

GAME 10 - CAROLINA

	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Carolina	3	0	7	7	-	17
Green Bay	7	14	7	3	-	31

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point)
Packers	1	7:54	T.Williams 94 yd. punt return (M.Crosby kick)
Panthers	1	5:03	J.Kasay 26 yd. Field Goal
Packers	2	11:13	G.Jennings 4 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	2	1:16	D.Lee 26 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	3	12:46	D.Lee 12 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Panthers	3	3:21	C.Fauria 2 yd. pass from V.Testaverde (J.Kasay kick)
Panthers	4	4:22	D.Carter 5 yd. pass from V.Testaverde (J.Kasay kick)
Packers	4	2:41	M.Crosby 47 yd. Field Goal

Carolina Panthers

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
D.Foster	20	87	4.4	11	0
D.Williams	6	22	3.7	9	0
V.Testaverde	2	19	9.5	16	0
B.Hoover	1	3	3.0	3	0
Total	29	131	4.5	16	0

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
V.Testaverde	37	19	258	2	49	2
Total	37	19	258	2	49	2

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
K.Colbert	6	33	5.5	7	0
D.Carter	5	132	26.4	49	1
D.Jarrett	3	39	13.0	19	0
J.King	2	13	6.5	10	0
D.Foster	1	21	21.0	21	0
D.Williams	1	18	18.0	18	0
C.Fauria	1	2	2.0	2t	1
Total	19	258	13.6	49	2

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	LgTD
Total				

Green Bay Packers

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
R.Grant	20	88	4.4	23	0
B.Jackson	3	13	4.3	9	0
D.Driver	1	5	5.0	5	0
B.Favre	3	-3	-1.0	-1	0
Total	27	103	3.8	23	0

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
B.Favre	30	22	218	3	47	0
Total	30	22	218	3	47	0

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
G.Jennings	7	48	6.9	12	1
D.Driver	5	83	16.6	47	0
D.Lee	5	49	9.8	26t	2
J.Jones	3	25	8.3	13	0
R.Martin	1	11	11.0	11	0
R.Grant	1	2	2.0	2	0
Total	22	218	9.9	47	3

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	LgTD
A.Rouse	1	3	3.0	3 0
C.Woodson	1	0	0.0	0 0
Total	2	3	1.5	3 0

	Panthers	Packers
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	21	18
TOTAL NET YARDS	382	317
NET YARDS RUSHING	131	103
NET YARDS PASSING	251	214
PENALTIES Number and Yards	4-25	6-75
TIME OF POSSESSION	28:49	31:11

GAME 11 - @ DETROIT

	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Green Bay	0	17	14	6	-	37
Detroit	6	3	3	14	-	26

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point) (Drive Info)
Lions	1	7:11	J.Hanson 47 yd. Field Goal
Lions	1	6:04	J.Hanson 41 yd. Field Goal
Packers	2	14:43	G.Jennings 11 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	2	7:41	R.Grant 5 yd. run (M.Crosby kick)
Lions	2	6:15	J.Hanson 45 yd. Field Goal
Packers	2	0:00	M.Crosby 20 yd. Field Goal
Packers	3	11:13	G.Jennings 4 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Lions	3	5:15	J.Hanson 52 yd. Field Goal (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	3	1:48	R.Martin 3 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	4	13:08	M.Crosby 20 yd. Field Goal
Lions	4	9:58	C.Johnson 6 yd. pass from J.Kitna (J.Hanson kick)
Lions	4	6:34	K.Jones 1 yd. run (J.Hanson kick)
Packers	4	1:44	M.Crosby 26 yd. Field Goal

Green Bay Packers

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
R.Grant	15	101	6.7	31	1
B.Favre	2	-1	-0.5	0	0
Total	17	100	5.9	31	1

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
B.Favre	41	31	381	3	43	0
Total	41	31	381	3	43	0

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
D.Driver	10	147	14.7	41	0
R.Grant	6	31	5.2	13	0
J.Jones	5	75	15.0	20	0
G.Jennings	5	60	12.0	24	2
K.Robinson	2	50	25.0	43	0
D.Lee	1	10	10.0	10	0
K.Hall	1	5	5.0	5	0
R.Martin	1	3	3.0	3t	1
Total	31	381	12.3	43	3

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	LgTD
A.Rouse	1	34	34.0	34 0
Total	1	34	34.0	34 0

Detroit Lions

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
K.Jones	20	93	4.7	23	1
T.Duckett	7	29	4.1	10	0
J.Kitna	2	9	4.5	6	0
A.Cason	1	3	3.0	3	0
Total	30	134	4.5	23	1

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
J.Kitna	40	19	224	1	20	1
Total	40	19	224	1	20	1

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
C.Johnson	7	83	11.9	16	1
A.Cason	4	58	14.5	20	0
R.Williams	3	32	10.7	19	0
K.Jones	2	27	13.5	14	0
S.McDonald	2	18	9.0	10	0
T.Walters	1	6	6.0	6	0
Total	19	224	11.8	20	1

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	LgTD
Total				

	Packers	Lions
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	25	25
TOTAL NET YARDS	481	331
NET YARDS RUSHING	100	134
NET YARDS PASSING	381	197
PENALTIES Number and Yards	9-81	7-59
TIME OF POSSESSION	25:41	34:19

GAME 12 - @ DALLAS

	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Green Bay	10	7	7	3	-	27
Dallas	13	14	0	10	-	37

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point)
Packers	1	11:32	M.Crosby 47 yd. Field Goal
Cowboys	1	8:23	N.Folk 26 yd. Field Goal
Cowboys	1	3:15	N.Folk 51 yd. Field Goal
Cowboys	1	1:14	P.Crayton 3 yd. pass from T.Romo (N.Folk kick)
Packers	1	0:01	R.Grant 62 yd. run (M.Crosby kick)
Cowboys	2	13:20	A.Fasano 26 yd. pass from T.Romo (N.Folk kick)
Cowboys	2	9:53	T.Owens 10 yd. pass from T.Romo (N.Folk kick)
Packers	2	0:31	G.Jennings 11 yd. pass from A.Rodgers (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	3	5:15	R.Grant 1 yd. run (M.Crosby kick)
Cowboys	4	7:51	P.Crayton 4 yd. pass from T.Romo (N.Folk kick)
Packers	4	5:03	M.Crosby 52 yd. Field Goal
Cowboys	4	1:03	N.Folk 25 yd. Field Goal

Green Bay Packers

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
R.Grant	14	94	6.7	62t	2
A.Rodgers	5	30	6.0	13	0
Total	19	124	6.5	62t	2

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
A.Rodgers	26	18	201	1	43	0
B.Favre	14	5	56	0	19	2
Total	40	23	257	1	43	2

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
D.Driver	7	65	9.4	17	0
G.Jennings	5	87	17.4	43	1
J.Jones	3	39	13.0	19	0
D.Lee	3	30	10.0	22	0
K.Robinson	2	15	8.0	9	0
R.Martin	1	13	13.0	13	0
R.Grant	1	4	4.0	4	0
J.Kuhn	1	2	2.0	2	0
Total	23	257	11.2	43	1

Dallas Cowboys

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
M.Barber	17	81	4.8	17	0
J.Jones	9	26	2.9	12	0
T.Romo	2	-2	-2.0	-2	0
Total	28	105	3.8	17	0

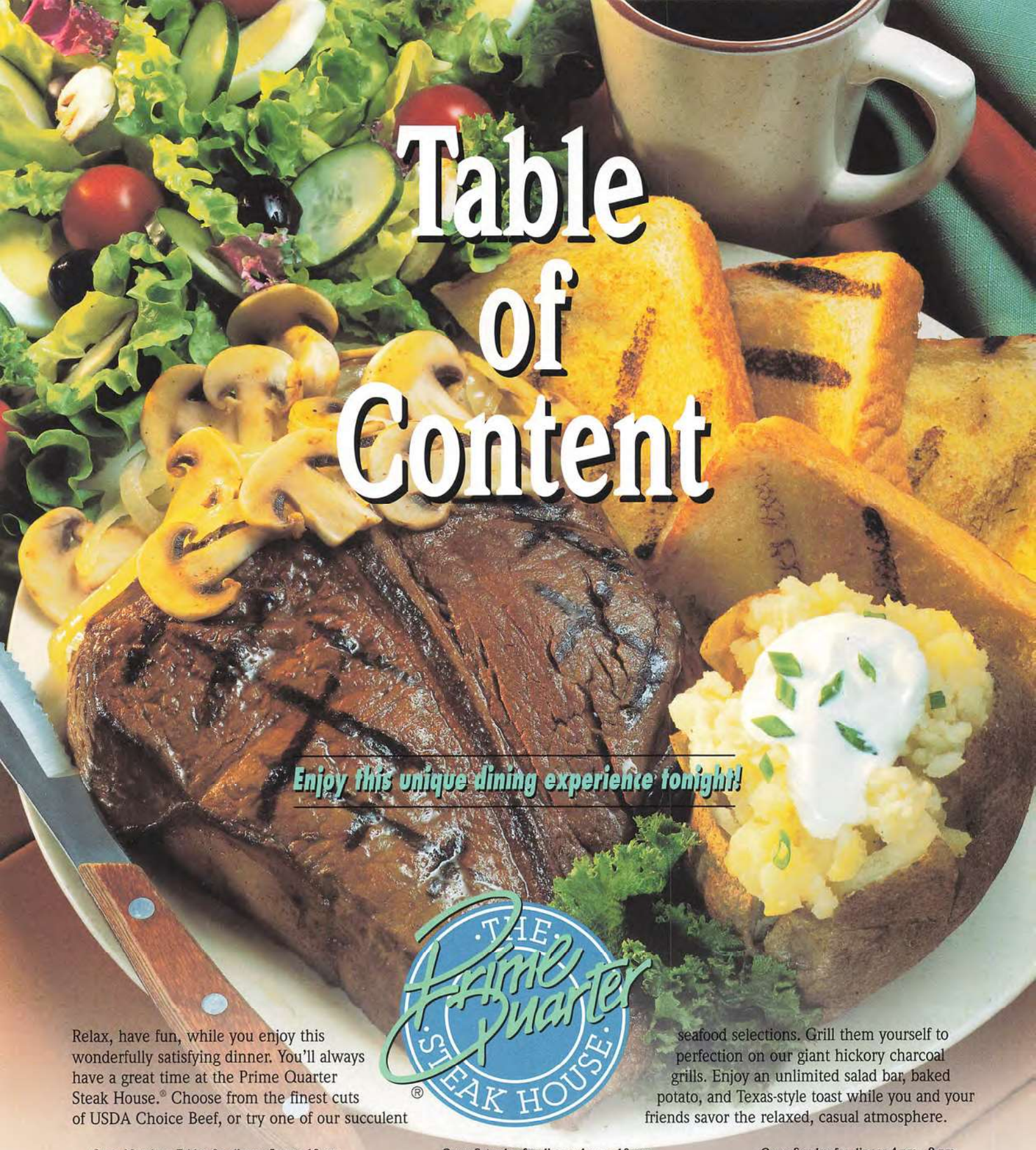
Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
T.Romo	30	19	309	4	48	1
Total	30	19	309	4	48	1

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
T.Owens	7	156	22.3	48	1
J.Witten	6	67	11.2	15	0
P.Crayton	3	42	14.0	35	2
A.Fasano	1	26	26.0	26t	1
J.Jones	1	21	21.0	21	0
M.Barber	1	-3	-3.0	-3	0
Total	19	309	16.3	48	4

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	LgTD
A.Harris	1	0	0.0	0 0
Total	1	0	0.0	0 0

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	LgTD
K.Hamlin	1	18	18.0	18 0
T.Newman	1	2	2.0	2 0
Total	2	20	10.0	18 0

	Packers	Cowboys
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	20	23
TOTAL NET YARDS	357	414
NET YARDS RUSHING	124	105
NET YARDS PASSING	233	309
PENALTIES Number and Yards	9-142	10-65
TIME OF POSSESSION	29:11	30:49



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GAME 13 - OAKLAND

	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Oakland	0	7	0	0	-	7
Green Bay	0	14	17	7	-	38

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point)
Packers	2	8:51	R.Grant 6 yd. run (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	2	5:44	W.Blackmon 57 yd. punt return (M.Crosby kick)
Raiders	2	0:26	J.Porter 25 yd. pass from J.McCown (S.Janikowski kick)
Packers	3	10:46	M.Crosby 44 yd. Field Goal
Packers	3	9:11	G.Jennings 80 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	3	4:50	W.Blackmon fumble recovery in end zone (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	4	4:00	D.Lee 46 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)

Oakland Raiders

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
J.Fargas	15	57	3.8	11	0
L.Jordan	11	21	1.9	7	0
J.McCown	1	6	6.0	6	0
R.Curry	1	1	1.0	1	0
Total	**28**	**85**	**3.0**	**11**	**0**

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
J.McCown	15	7	110	1	29	2
A.Walter	8	5	38	0	19	0
Total	**23**	**12**	**148**	**1**	**29**	**2**

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
L.Jordan	4	17	4.3	7	0
R.Curry	2	48	24.0	29	0
J.Porter	2	45	22.5	25t	1
T.Dwight	1	22	22.0	22	0
Z.Miller	1	8	8.0	8	0
J.Higgins	1	5	5.0	5	0
J.Griffith	1	3	3.0	3	0
Total	**12**	**148**	**12.3**	**29**	**1**

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
S.Schweigert	1	10	10.0	10	0
Total	**1**	**10**	**10.0**	**10**	**0**

Green Bay Packers

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
R.Grant	29	156	5.4	26	1
V.Morency	7	23	3.3	8	0
Total	**36**	**179**	**5.0**	**26**	**1**

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
B.Favre	23	15	266	2	80t	1
Total	**23**	**15**	**266**	**2**	**80t**	**1**

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
D.Lee	4	71	17.8	46t	1
D.Driver	3	38	12.7	20	0
V.Morency	3	14	4.7	10	0
G.Jennings	2	100	50.0	80t	1
R.Grant	2	6	3.0	5	0
K.Robinson	1	37	37.0	37	0
Total	**15**	**266**	**17.7**	**80t**	**2**

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
A.Bigby	1	22	22.0	22	0
A.Harris	1	17	17.0	17	0
Total	**2**	**39**	**19.5**	**22**	**0**

	Raiders	Packers
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	10	21
TOTAL NET YARDS	233	445
NET YARDS RUSHING	85	179
NET YARDS PASSING	148	266
PENALTIES Number and Yards	9-62	9-84
TIME OF POSSESSION	26:46	33:14

GAME 14 - @ ST. LOUIS

	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Green Bay	7	10	10	6	-	33
St. Louis	7	7	0	0	-	14

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point)
Packers	1	9:39	R.Grant 1 yd. run (M.Crosby kick)
Rams	1	1:11	T.Holt 4 yd. pass from M.Bulger (J.Wilkins kick)
Packers	2	14:15	D.Lee 4 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Rams	2	10:09	S.Jackson 46 yd. run (J.Wilkins kick)
Packers	2	3:54	M.Crosby 44 yd. Field Goal
Packers	3	10:21	M.Crosby 50 yd. Field Goal
Packers	3	5:58	G.Jennings 44 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	4	11:22	M.Crosby 25 yd. Field Goal
Packers	4	3:43	M.Crosby 46 yd. Field Goal

Green Bay Packers

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
R.Grant	18	55	3.1	24	1
B.Jackson	2	0	0.0	1	0
B.Favre	3	-3	-1.0	-1	0
Total	**23**	**52**	**2.3**	**24**	**1**

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
B.Favre	30	19	227	2	44t	2
Total	**30**	**19**	**227**	**2**	**44t**	**2**

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
D.Driver	5	80	16.0	37	0
G.Jennings	4	66	16.5	44t	1
J.Jones	2	29	14.5	21	0
V.Morency	2	17	8.5	9	0
K.Robinson	2	16	8.0	10	0
R.Grant	2	5	2.5	2	0
R.Martin	1	10	10.0	10	0
D.Lee	1	4	4.0	4t	1
Total	**19**	**227**	**11.8**	**44t**	**2**

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
A.Bigby	2	26	13.0	18	0
Total	**2**	**26**	**13.0**	**18**	**0**

St. Louis Rams

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
S.Jackson	24	143	6.0	46t	1
A.Pittman	6	31	5.2	13	0
M.Bulger	1	-1	-1.0	-1	0
Total	31	173	5.6	46t	1

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
M.Bulger	39	20	219	1	37	2
Total	**39**	**20**	**219**	**1**	**37**	**2**

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
D.Bennett	5	65	13.0	18	0
I.Bruce	4	72	18.0	37	0
S.Jackson	4	27	6.8	15	0
T.Holt	3	21	7.0	10	1
R.McMichael	2	22	11.0	18	0
D.Looker	1	8	8.0	8	0
B.Leonard	1	4	4.0	4	0
Total	**20**	**219**	**11.0**	**37**	**1**

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
O.Atogwe	2	-8	-4.0	0	0
Total	**2**	**-8**	**-4.0**	**0**	**0**

	Packers	Rams
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	16	21
TOTAL NET YARDS	277	364
NET YARDS RUSHING	52	173
NET YARDS PASSING	225	191
PENALTIES Number and Yards	6-35	13-93
TIME OF POSSESSION	23:36	36:24

GAME 15 - @ CHICAGO

	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Green Bay	0	7	0	0	-	7
Chicago	3	10	15	7	-	35

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point)
Bears	1	4:15	R.Gould 31 yd Field Goal
Bears	2	4:00	R.Gould 35 yd Field Goal
Packers	2	3:08	R.Grant 66 yd. run (M.Crosby kick)
Bears	2	0:48	A.Peterson 8 yd. run (R.Gould kick)
Bears	3	8:30	D.Clark 3 yd. pass from K.Orton (K.Orton-G.Olsen pass)
Bears	3	7:23	C.Graham 7 yd. return of blocked punt (R.Gould kick)
Bears	4	11:20	B.Urlacher 85 yd. interception return (R.Gould kick)

Green Bay Packers

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
R.Grant	14	100	7.1	66t	1
B.Jackson	3	25	8.3	15	0
B.Favre	3	0	0.0	0	0
J.Ryan	1	0	0.0	0	0
Total	**21**	**125**	**6.0**	**66t**	**1**

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
B.Favre	32	17	153	0	20	2
Total	**32**	**17**	**153**	**0**	**20**	**2**

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
D.Driver	4	32	8.0	12	0
G.Jennings	3	42	14.0	20	0
V.Morency	3	21	7.0	10	0
K.Robinson	2	12	6.0	14	0
R.Martin	1	14	14.0	14	0
B.Jackson	1	13	13.0	13	0
R.Grant	1	9	9.0	9	0
B.Franks	1	8	8.0	8	0
D.Lee	1	2	2.0	2	0
Total	**17**	**153**	**9.0**	**20**	**0**

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
Total					

Chicago Bears

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
A.Peterson	30	102	3.4	21	1
G.Wolfe	12	29	2.4	7	0
J.McKie	2	5	2.5	3	0
Total	**44**	**136**	**3.1**	**21**	**1**

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
K.Orton	15	9	104	1	33	0
Total	**15**	**9**	**104**	**1**	**33**	**0**

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
G.Wolfe	2	38	19.0	33	0
B.Berrian	2	17	8.5	14	0
D.Clark	2	13	6.5	10	1
A.Peterson	1	16	16.0	16	0
J.McKie	1	10	10.0	10	0
G.Olsen	1	10	10.0	10	0
Total	**9**	**104**	**11.6**	**33**	**1**

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
B.Urlacher	1	85	85.0	85t	1
A.Brown	1	7	7.0	7	0
Total	**2**	**92**	**46.0**	**85t**	**1**

	Packers	Bears
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	13	14
TOTAL NET YARDS	274	240
NET YARDS RUSHING	125	136
NET YARDS PASSING	149	104
PENALTIES Number and Yards	1-10	6-30
TIME OF POSSESSION	26:27	33:33

GAME 16 - DETROIT

	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Detroit	3	7	3	0	-	13
Green Bay	14	7	10	3	-	34

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point)
Lions	1	12:07	J.Hanson 35 yd. Field Goal
Packers	1	9:57	R.Grant 27 yd. run (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	1	2:25	K.Robinson 5 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	2	14:12	B.Franks 4 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Lions	2	1:52	S.McDonald 30 yd. pass from J.Kitna (J.Hanson kick)
Packers	3	12:29	M.Crosby 33 yd. Field Goal
Lions	3	7:00	J.Hanson 38 yd. Field Goal
Packers	3	2:48	R.Martin 32 yd. pass from C.Nall (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	4	10:03	M.Crosby 35 yd. Field Goal

Detroit Lions

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
T.Duckett	13	29	2.2	5	0
A.Cason	3	16	5.3	12	0
S.McDonald	1	2	2.0	2	0
Total	**17**	**47**	**2.8**	**12**	**0**

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
J.Kitna	48	22	246	1	30t	2
Total	**48**	**22**	**246**	**1**	**30t**	**2**

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
M.Furrey	6	47	7.8	13	0
S.McDonald	5	69	13.8	30t	1
C.Johnson	4	54	13.5	25	0
T.Duckett	2	32	16.0	22	0
B.Middleton	2	26	13.0	17	0
S.McHugh	2	7	3.5	5	0
A.Cason	1	11	11.0	11	0
Total	**22**	**246**	**11.2**	**30t**	**1**

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
Total					

Green Bay Packers

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
B.Jackson	20	113	5.7	46	0
R.Grant	6	57	9.5	27t	1
B.Favre	1	21	21.0	21	0
V.Morency	5	15	3.0	5	0
C.Nall	5	6	1.2	8	0
K.Robinson	1	5	5.0	5	0
Total	**38**	**217**	**5.7**	**46**	**1**

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
C.Nall	15	7	88	1	32t	0
B.Favre	11	9	99	2	24	0
Total	**26**	**16**	**187**	**3**	**32t**	**0**

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
K.Robinson	4	47	11.8	21	1
B.Franks	3	34	11.3	24	1
B.Jackson	2	22	11.0	13	0
V.Morency	2	20	10.0	12	0
J.Jones	2	14	7.0	8	0
R.Martin	1	32	32.0	32t	1
S.Bodiford	1	13	13.0	13	0
J.Kuhn	1	5	5.0	5	0
Total	**16**	**187**	**11.7**	**32t**	**3**

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
T.Williams	1	22	22.0	22	0
A.Bigby	1	1	1.0	1	0
Total	**2**	**23**	**11.5**	**22**	**0**

	Lions	Packers
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	16	19
TOTAL NET YARDS	293	394
NET YARDS RUSHING	47	217
NET YARDS PASSING	246	177
PENALTIES Number and Yards	7-55	2-25
TIME OF POSSESSION	26:44	33:16

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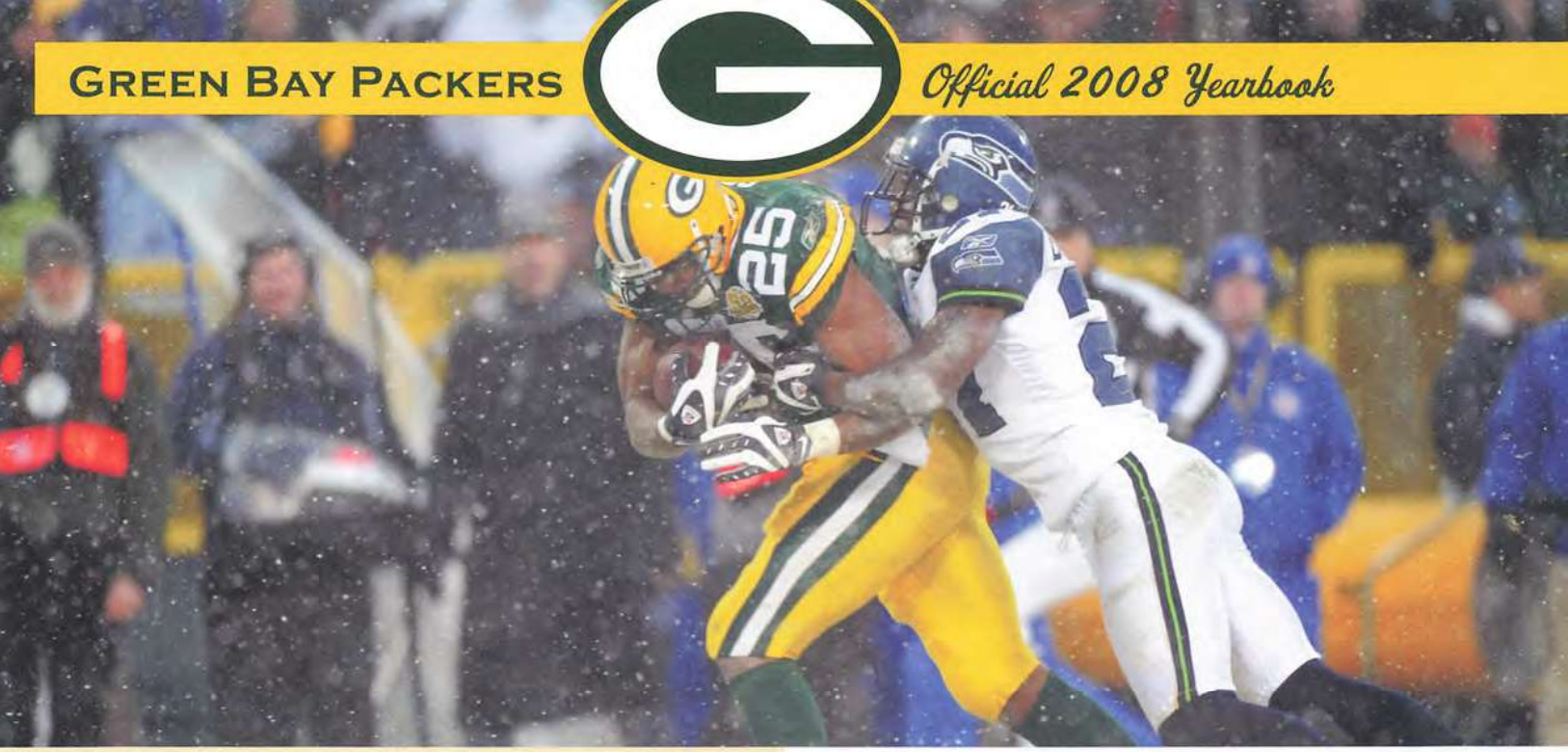

SEATTLE
(NFC DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS)

	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
Seattle	14	3	3	0	-	20
Green Bay	14	14	7	7	-	42

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point)
Seahawks	1	14:40	S.Alexander 1 yd. run (J.Brown kick)
Seahawks	1	10:59	B.Engram 11 yd. pass from M.Hasselbeck (J.Brown kick)
Packers	1	7:08	G.Jennings 15 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	1	1:02	R.Grant 1 yd. run (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	2	13:22	G.Jennings 2 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Seahawks	2	7:18	J.Brown 29 yd. Field Goal
Packers	2	0:26	R.Grant 3 yd. run (M.Crosby kick)
Packers	3	10:25	B.Jackson 13 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Seahawks	3	2:46	J.Brown 27 yd. Field Goal
Packers	4	13:26	R.Grant 1 yd. run (M.Crosby kick)

Seattle Seahawks

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
S.Alexander	9	20	2.2	9	1
L.Weaver	4	10	2.5	6	0
M.Morris	3	-1	-0.3	1	0
M.Hasselbeck	2	-1	-0.5	0	0
Total	**18**	**28**	**1.6**	**9**	**1**

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
M.Hasselbeck	33	19	194	1	22	0
Total	**33**	**19**	**194**	**1**	**22**	**0**

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
B.Engram	6	67	11.2	22	1
B.Obomanu	4	63	15.8	22	0
N.Burleson	4	33	8.3	20	0
D.Hackett	2	15	7.5	8	0
S.Alexander	2	13	6.5	9	0
M.Pollard	1	3	3.0	3	0
Total	**19**	**194**	**10.2**	**22**	**1**

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	LgTD
Total				

Green Bay Packers

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
R.Grant	27	201	7.4	43	3
B.Jackson	8	34	4.3	18	0
Total	**35**	**235**	**6.7**	**43**	**3**

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
B.Favre	23	18	173	3	31	0
Total	**23**	**18**	**173**	**3**	**31**	**0**

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
G.Jennings	6	71	11.8	24	2
J.Jones	3	42	14.0	31	0
D.Driver	3	18	6.0	11	0
D.Lee	2	16	8.0	11	0
R.Grant	2	6	3.0	11	0
B.Jackson	1	13	13.0	13t	1
B.Franks	1	7	7.0	7	0
Total	**18**	**173**	**9.6**	**31**	**3**

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	LgTD
Total				

	Seahawks	Packers
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	15	25
TOTAL NET YARDS	200	408
NET YARDS RUSHING	28	235
NET YARDS PASSING	172	173
PENALTIES Number and Yards	4-28	5-47
FUMBLES Number and Lost	2-1	2-2
TIME OF POSSESSION	26:00	34:00

N.Y. GIANTS
(NFC CHAMPIONSHIP)

	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
N.Y. Giants	3	3	14	0	3	23
Green Bay	0	10	7	3	0	20

Team	Qtr	Time	Play Description (Extra Point)
Giants	1	4:50	L.Tynes 29 yd. Field Goal
Giants	2	11:41	L.Tynes 37 yd. Field Goal
Packers	2	11:18	D.Driver 90 yd. pass from B.Favre
Packers	2	1:30	M.Crosby 36 yd. Field Goal
Giants	3	7:56	B.Jacobs 1 yd. run (L.Tynes kick)
Packers	3	5:00	D.Lee 12 yd. pass from B.Favre (M.Crosby kick)
Giants	3	2:12	A.Bradshaw 4 yd. run (L.Tynes kick)
Packers	4	11:46	M.Crosby 37 yd. Field Goal
Giants	5	12:25	L.Tynes 47 yd. Field Goal

New York Giants

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
B.Jacobs	21	67	3.2	12	1
A.Bradshaw	16	63	3.9	10	1
E.Manning	2	4	2.0	2	0
Total	**39**	**134**	**3.4**	**12**	**2**

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
E.Manning	40	21	251	0	32	0
Total	**40**	**21**	**251**	**0**	**32**	**0**

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	Lg	TD
P.Burress	11	151	13.7	32	0
A.Toomer	4	42	10.5	23	0
S.Smith	2	25	12.5	14	0
K.Boss	1	12	12.0	12	0
A.Bradshaw	1	9	9.0	9	0
B.Jacobs	1	8	8.0	8	0
D.Tyree	1	4	4.0	4	0
Total	**21**	**251**	**12.0**	**32**	**0**

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	LgTD
R.McQuarters	1	11	11.0	11	0
C.Webster	1	9	9.0	9	0
Total	**2**	**20**	**10**	**11**	**0**

Green Bay Packers

Rushing	Att	Yd	Avg	LgTD
R.Grant	13	29	2.2	13	0
B.Favre	1	-1	-1.0	-1	0
Total	**14**	**28**	**2.0**	**13**	**0**

Passing	Att	Cm	Yds	TD	Lg	In
B.Favre	35	19	236	2	90t	2
Total	**35**	**19**	**236**	**2**	**90t**	**2**

Receiving	No	Yd	Avg	LgTD
D.Driver	5	141	28.2	90t	1
K.Robinson	4	16	4.0	16	0
D.Lee	3	35	11.7	18	1
V.Morency	2	9	4.5	7	0
G.Jennings	1	14	14.0	14	0
K.Hall	1	12	12.0	12	0
B.Franks	1	11	11.0	11	0
B.Jackson	1	1	1.0	1	0
R.Grant	1	-3	-3.0	-3	0
Total	**19**	**236**	**12.4**	**90**	**2**

Intercept.	No	Yd	Avg	LgTD
Total				

	Giants	Packers
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	24	13
TOTAL NET YARDS	380	264
NET YARDS RUSHING	134	28
NET YARDS PASSING	243	236
PENALTIES Number and Yards	6-50	7-37
TIME OF POSSESSION	40:01	22:34

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2008 LEAGUE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1 FOX-TV national weekend
Thursday, September 4

Washington	at	N.Y. Giants	7:00p (ET)

Sunday, September 7

Detroit	at	Atlanta	1:00p(ET)
Cincinnati	at	Baltimore	1:00p(ET)
Seattle	at	Buffalo	1:00p(ET)
N.Y. Jets	at	Miami	1:00p(ET)
Kansas City	at	New England	1:00p(ET)
Tampa Bay	at	New Orleans	12:00p(CT)
St. Louis	at	Philadelphia	1:00p(ET)
Houston	at	Pittsburgh	1:00p(ET)
Jacksonville	at	Tennessee	12:00p(CT)
Dallas	at	Cleveland	4:15p(ET)
Carolina	at	San Diego	1:15p(PT)
Arizona	at	San Francisco	1:15p(PT)
Chicago	at	Indianapolis	8:15p(ET)

Monday, September 8

Minnesota	**at**	**Green Bay**	**6:00p (CT)**
Denver	at	Oakland	7:15p (PT)

WEEK 2 CBS-TV national weekend
Sunday, September 14

Chicago	at	Carolina	1:00p(ET)
Tennessee	at	Cincinnati	1:00p(ET)
Green Bay	**at**	**Detroit**	**1:00p(ET)**
Buffalo	at	Jacksonville	1:00p(ET)
Oakland	at	Kansas City	12:00p(CT)
Indianapolis	at	Minnesota	12:00p(CT)
N.Y. Giants	at	St. Louis	12:00p(CT)
New Orleans	at	Washington	1:00p(ET)
San Francisco	at	Seattle	1:05p(PT)
Atlanta	at	Tampa Bay	4:05p(ET)
Miami	at	Arizona	1:15p(MT)
San Diego	at	Denver	2:15p(MT)
Baltimore	at	Houston	3:15p(CT)
New England	at	N.Y. Jets	4:15p(ET)
Pittsburgh	at	Cleveland	8:15p(ET)

Monday, September 15

Philadelphia	at	Dallas	7:30p(CT)

WEEK 3 CBS-TV national weekend
Sunday, September 21

Kansas City	at	Atlanta	1:00p(ET)
Oakland	at	Buffalo	1:00p(ET)
Tampa Bay	at	Chicago	12:00p(CT)
Carolina	at	Minnesota	12:00p(CT)
Miami	at	New England	1:00p(ET)
Cincinnati	at	N.Y. Giants	1:00p(ET)
Houston	at	Tennessee	12:00p(CT)
Arizona	at	Washington	1:00p(ET)
New Orleans	at	Denver	2:05p(MT)
Detroit	at	San Francisco	1:05p(PT)
St. Louis	at	Seattle	1:05p(PT)
Cleveland	at	Baltimore	4:15p(ET)
Jacksonville	at	Indianapolis	4:15p(ET)
Pittsburgh	at	Philadelphia	4:15p(ET)
Dallas	**at**	**Green Bay**	**7:15p(CT)**

Monday, September 22

N.Y. Jets	at	San Diego	5:30p(PT)

WEEK 4 FOX-TV national weekend
Open Dates: Detroit, Indianapolis, Miami, New England, N.Y. Giants, Seattle
Sunday, September 28

Atlanta	at	Carolina	1:00p (ET)
Cleveland	at	Cincinnati	1:00p (ET)
Houston	at	Jacksonville	1:00p (ET)
Denver	at	Kansas City	12:00p(CT)
San Francisco	at	New Orleans	12:00p(CT)
Arizona	at	N.Y. Jets	1:00p (ET)
Green Bay	**at**	**Tampa Bay**	**1:00p(ET)**
Minnesota	at	Tennessee	12:00p (CT)
San Diego	at	Oakland	1:05p (PT)
Buffalo	at	St. Louis	3:05p (CT)
Washington	at	Dallas	3:15p (CT)
Philadelphia	at	Chicago	7:15p (CT)

Monday, September 29

Baltimore	at	Pittsburgh	8:30p(ET)

WEEK 5 CBS-TV national weekend
Open Dates: Cleveland, N.Y. Jets, St Louis, Oakland
Sunday, October 5

Tennessee	at	Baltimore	1:00p(ET)
Kansas City	at	Carolina	1:00p(ET)
Chicago	at	Detroit	1:00p(ET)
Atlanta	**at**	**GreenBay**	**12:00p(CT)**
Indianapolis	at	Houston	12:00p(CT)
San Diego	at	Miami	1:00p(ET)
Seattle	at	N.Y. Giants	1:00p(ET)
Washington	at	Philadelphia	1:00p(ET)
Tampa Bay	at	Denver	2:05p(MT)
Buffalo	at	Arizona	1:15p(MT)
Cincinnati	at	Dallas	3:15p(CT)
New England	at	San Francisco	1:15p(PT)
Pittsburgh	at	Jacksonville	8:15p(ET)

Monday, October 6

Minnesota	at	New Orleans	7:30p(CT)

WEEK 6 FOX-TV national weekend
Open Dates: Buffalo, Kansas City, Pittsburgh, Tennessee
Sunday, October 12

Chicago	at	Atlanta	1:00p(ET)
Miami	at	Houston	12:00p(CT)
Baltimore	at	Indianapolis	1:00p(ET)
Detroit	at	Minnesota	12:00p(CT)
Oakland	at	New Orleans	12:00p(CT)
Cincinnati	at	N.Y. Jets	1:00p(ET)
Carolina	at	Tampa Bay	1:00p(ET)
St. Louis	at	Washington	1:00p(ET)
Jacksonville	at	Denver	2:05p(MT)
Dallas	at	Arizona	1:15p(MT)
Philadelphia	at	San Francisco	1:15p(PT)
Green Bay	**at**	**Seattle**	**1:15p(PT)**
New England	at	San Diego	5:15p(PT)

Monday, October 13

N.Y. Giants	at	Cleveland	8:30p(ET)

WEEK 7 CBS-TV national weekend
Open Dates: Arizona, Atlanta, Jacksonville, Philadelphia
Sunday, October 19

San Diego	at	Buffalo	1:00p(ET)
New Orleans	at	Carolina	1:00p(ET)
Minnesota	at	Chicago	12:00p(CT)
Pittsburgh	at	Cincinnati	1:00p(ET)
Tennessee	at	Kansas City	12:00p(CT)
Baltimore	at	Miami	1:00p(ET)
San Francisco	at	N.Y. Giants	1:00p(ET)
Dallas	at	St. Louis	12:00p(CT)
Detroit	at	Houston	3:05p(CT)
Indianapolis	**at**	**Green Bay**	**3:15p(CT)**
N.Y. Jets	at	Oakland	1:15p(PT)
Cleveland	at	Washington	4:15p(ET)
Seattle	at	Tampa Bay	8:15p(ET)

Monday, October 20

Denver	at	New England	8:30p(ET)

WEEK 8 FOX-TV national weekend
Open Dates: Chicago, Cincinnati, Denver, **Green Bay**, Houston, Minnesota
Sunday, October 26

Oakland	at	Baltimore	1:00p(ET)
Arizona	at	Carolina	1:00p(ET)
Tampa Bay	at	Dallas	12:00p(CT)
Washington	at	Detroit	1:00p(ET)
Buffalo	at	Miami	1:00p(ET)
St. Louis	at	New England	1:00p(ET)
San Diego	at	New Orleans (London)	5:00p (GMT)
Kansas City	at	N.Y. Jets	1:00p(ET)
Atlanta	at	Philadelphia	1:00p(ET)
Cleveland	at	Jacksonville	4:05p(ET)
N.Y. Giants	at	Pittsburgh	4:15p(ET)
Seattle	at	San Francisco	1:15p(PT)

Monday, October 27

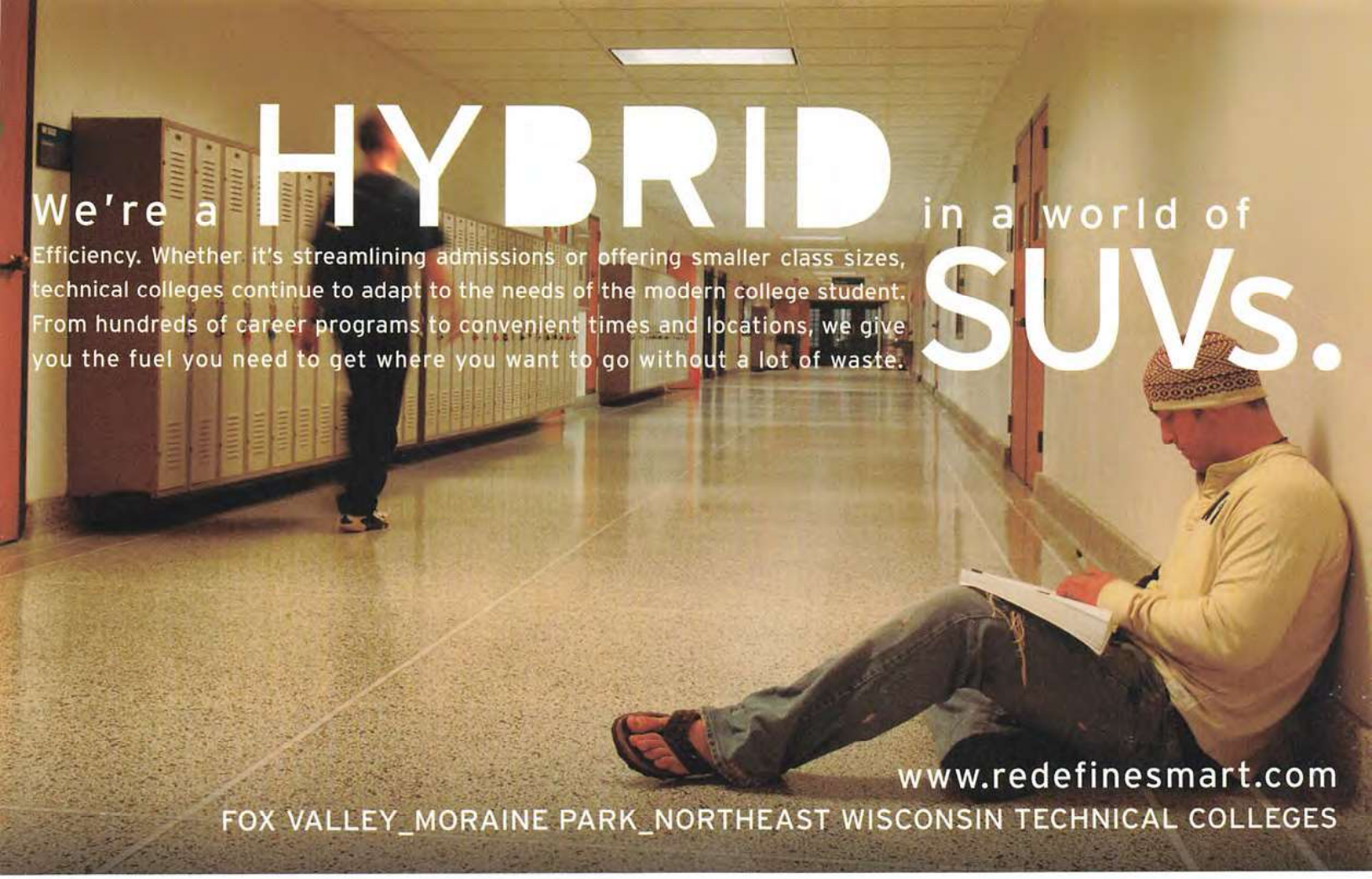
Indianapolis	at	Tennessee	7:30p(CT)

WEEK 9 FOX-TV national weekend
Open Dates: Carolina, New Orleans, San Diego, San Francisco
Sunday, November 2

N.Y. Jets	at	Buffalo	1:00p(ET)
Detroit	at	Chicago	12:00p(CT)
Jacksonville	at	Cincinnati	1:00p(ET)
Baltimore	at	Cleveland	1:00p(ET)
Tampa Bay	at	Kansas City	12:00p(CT)
Houston	at	Minnesota	12:00p(CT)
Arizona	at	St. Louis	12:00p(CT)
Green Bay	**at**	**Tennessee**	**12:00p(CT)**
Miami	at	Denver	2:05p(MT)
Dallas	at	N.Y. Giants	4:15p(ET)
Atlanta	at	Oakland	1:15p(PT)
Philadelphia	at	Seattle	1:15p(PT)
New England	at	Indianapolis	8:15p(ET)

Monday, November 3

Pittsburgh	at	Washington	8:30p(ET)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WEEK 10 CBS-TV national weekend
Open Dates: Baltimore, Dallas, Tampa Bay, Washington

Thursday, November 6

___ Denver	at	_____ Cleveland	8:15p(ET)

Sunday, November 9

___ New Orleans	at	Atlanta	1:00p(ET)
___ Tennessee	at	_____ Chicago	12:00p(CT)
___ Jacksonville	at	_____ Detroit	1:00p(ET)
___ Cincinnati	at	_____ Houston	12:00p(CT)
___ Seattle	at	_____ Miami	1:00p(ET)
___ Green Bay	**at**	**_____ Minnesota**	**12:00p(CT)**
___ Buffalo	at	_____ New England	1:00(ET)
___ St. Louis	at	_____ N.Y. Jets	1:00p(ET)
___ Carolina	at	_____ Oakland	1:05p(PT)
___ Indianapolis	at	_____ Pittsburgh	4:15p(ET)
___ Kansas City	at	_____ San Diego	1:15p(PT)
___ N.Y. Giants	at	_____ Philadelphia	8:15p(ET)

Monday, November 10

___ San Francisco	at	_____ Arizona	6:30p(MT)

WEEK 11 CBS-TV national weekend

Thursday, November 13

___ N.Y. Jets	at	_____ New England	8:15p(ET)

Sunday, November 16

___ Denver	at	_____ Atlanta	1:00p(ET)
___ Detroit	at	_____ Carolina	1:00p(ET)
___ Philadelphia	at	_____ Cincinnati	1:00p(ET)
___ Chicago	**at**	**_____ Green Bay**	**12:00p(CT)**
___ Houston	at	_____ Indianapolis	1:00p(ET)
___ Tennessee	at	_____ Jacksonville	1:00p(ET)
___ New Orleans	at	_____ Kansas City	12:00p(CT)
___ Oakland	at	_____ Miami	1:00p(ET)
___ Baltimore	at	_____ N.Y. Giants	1:00p(ET)
___ Minnesota	at	_____ Tampa Bay	1:00p(ET)
___ St. Louis	at	_____ San Francisco	1:05p(PT)
___ Arizona	at	_____ Seattle	1:05p(PT)
___ San Diego	at	_____ Pittsburgh	4:15p(ET)
___ Dallas	at	_____ Washington *	8:15p(ET)

Monday, November 17

___ Cleveland	at	_____ Buffalo	8:30p(ET)

WEEK 12 FOX-TV national weekend

Thursday, November 20

___ Cincinnati	at	_____ Pittsburgh	8:15p(ET)

Sunday, November 23

___ Carolina	at	_____ Atlanta	1:00p(ET)
___ Philadelphia	at	_____ Baltimore	1:00p(ET)
___ Houston	at	_____ Cleveland	1:00p(ET)
___ San Francisco	at	_____ Dallas	12:00p(CT)
___ Tampa Bay	at	_____ Detroit	1:00p(ET)
___ Minnesota	at	_____ Jacksonville	1:00p(ET)
___ Buffalo	at	_____ Kansas City	12:00p(CT)
___ New England	at	_____ Miami	1:00p(ET)
___ Chicago	at	_____ St. Louis	12:00p(CT)
___ N.Y. Jets	at	_____ Tennessee	12:00p(CT)
___ Oakland	at	_____ Denver	2:05p(MT)
___ N.Y. Giants	at	_____ Arizona	2:15p(MT)
___ Washington	at	_____ Seattle	1:15p(PT)
___ Indianapolis	at	_____ San Diego*	5:15p(PT)

Monday, November 24

___ Green Bay	**at**	**_____ New Orleans**	**7:30p(CT)**

WEEK 13 CBS-TV national weekend

Thursday, November 27

___ Tennessee	at	_____ Detroit	12:30p(ET)
___ Seattle	at	_____ Dallas	3:15p(CT)
___ Arizona	at	_____ Philadelphia	8:15p(ET)

Sunday, November 30

___ San Francisco	at	_____ Buffalo	1:00p(ET)
___ Baltimore	at	_____ Cincinnati	1:00p(ET)
___ Indianapolis	at	_____ Cleveland	1:00p(ET)
___ Carolina	**at**	**_____ Green Bay**	**12:00p(CT)**
___ Denver	at	_____ N.Y. Jets	1:00p(ET)
___ Miami	at	_____ St. Louis	12:00p(CT)
___ New Orleans	at	_____ Tampa Bay	1:00p(ET)
___ N.Y. Giants	at	_____ Washington	1:00p(ET)
___ Atlanta	at	_____ San Diego	1:05p(PT)
___ Pittsburgh	at	_____ New England	4:15p(ET)
___ Kansas City	at	_____ Oakland	1:15p(PT)
___ Chicago	at	_____ Minnesota *	7:15p(CT)

Monday, December 1

___ Jacksonville	at	_____ Houston	7:30p(CT)

WEEK 14 FOX-TV national weekend

Thursday, December 4

___ Oakland	at	_____ San Diego	5:15p(PT)

Sunday, December 7

___ Washington	at	_____ Baltimore	1:00p(ET)
___ Jacksonville	at	_____ Chicago	12:00p(CT)
___ Minnesota	at	_____ Detroit	1:00p(ET)
___ Houston	**at**	**_____ Green Bay**	**12:00p(CT)**
___ Cincinnati	at	_____ Indianapolis	1:00p(ET)
___ Atlanta	at	_____ New Orleans	12:00p(CT)
___ Philadelphia	at	_____ N.Y. Giants	1:00p(ET)
___ Cleveland	at	_____ Tennessee	12:00p(CT)
___ Miami	at	_____ Buffalo (Toronto)	4:05p(ET)
___ Kansas City	at	_____ Denver	2:05p(MT)
___ N.Y. Jets	at	_____ San Francisco	1:05p(PT)
___ St. Louis	at	_____ Arizona	2:15p(MT)
___ Dallas	at	_____ Pittsburgh	4:15p(ET)
___ New England	at	_____ Seattle *	5:15p(PT)

Monday, December 8

___ Tampa Bay	at	_____ Carolina	8:30p(ET)

WEEK 15 CBS-TV national weekend

Thursday, December 11

___ New Orleans	at	_____ Chicago	7:15p(CT)

Sunday, December 14

___ Tampa Bay	at	_____ Atlanta	1:00p(ET)
___ Pittsburgh	at	_____ Baltimore	1:00p(ET)
___ Denver	at	_____ Carolina	1:00p(ET)
___ Washington	at	_____ Cincinnati	1:00p(ET)
___ Tennessee	at	_____ Houston	12:00p(CT)
___ Detroit	at	_____ Indianapolis	1:00p(ET)
___ Green Bay	**at**	**_____ Jacksonville**	**1:00p(ET)**
___ San Diego	at	_____ Kansas City	12:00p(CT)
___ San Francisco	at	_____ Miami	1:00p(ET)
___ Buffalo	at	_____ N.Y. Jets	1:00p(ET)
___ Seattle	at	_____ St. Louis	12:00p(CT)
___ Minnesota	at	_____ Arizona	2:05p(MT)
___ New England	at	_____ Oakland	1:15p(PT)
___ N.Y. Giants	at	_____ Dallas *	7:15p(CT)

Monday, December 15

___ Cleveland	at	_____ Philadelphia	8:30p(ET)

WEEK 16 FOX-TV national weekend

Thursday, December 18

___ Indianapolis	at	_____ Jacksonville	8:15p(ET)

Saturday, December 20

___ Baltimore	at	_____ Dallas	7:15p(CT)

Sunday, December 21

___ Cincinnati	at	_____ Cleveland	1:00p(ET)
___ New Orleans	at	_____ Detroit	1:00p(ET)
___ Miami	at	_____ Kansas City	12:00p(CT)
___ Atlanta	at	_____ Minnesota	12:00p(CT)
___ Arizona	at	_____ New England	1:00p(ET)
___ Carolina	at	_____ N.Y. Giants	1:00p(ET)
___ San Francisco	at	_____ St. Louis	12:00p(CT)
___ Pittsburgh	at	_____ Tennessee	12:00p(CT)
___ Philadelphia	at	_____ Washington	1:00p(ET)
___ Buffalo	at	_____ Denver	2:05p(MT)
___ Houston	at	_____ Oakland	1:05p(PT)
___ N.Y. Jets	at	_____ Seattle	1:05p(PT)
___ San Diego	at	_____ Tampa Bay *	8:15p(ET)

Monday, December 22

___ Green Bay	**at**	**_____ Chicago**	**7:30p(CT)**

WEEK 17 CBS-TV & FOX-TV national weekend

Sunday, December 28

___ St. Louis	at	_____ Atlanta	1:00p(ET)
___ Jacksonville	at	_____ Baltimore	1:00p(ET)
___ New England	at	_____ Buffalo	1:00p(ET)
___ Kansas City	at	_____ Cincinnati	1:00p(ET)
___ Detroit	**at**	**_____ Green Bay**	**12:00p(CT)**
___ Chicago	at	_____ Houston	12:00p(CT)
___ Tennessee	at	_____ Indianapolis	1:00p(ET)
___ N.Y. Giants	at	_____ Minnesota	12:00p(CT)
___ Carolina	at	_____ New Orleans	12:00p(CT)
___ Miami	at	_____ N.Y. Jets	1:00p(ET)
___ Dallas	at	_____ Philadelphia	1:00p(ET)
___ Cleveland	at	_____ Pittsburgh	1:00p(ET)
___ Oakland	at	_____ Tampa Bay	1:00p(ET)
___ Seattle	at	_____ Arizona	2:15p(MT)
___ Denver	at	_____ San Diego	1:15p(PT)
___ Washington	at	_____ San Francisco	1:15p(PT)

*The NFL will again utilize "flexible scheduling" in 2008.

Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 3-4
NFC Wild-Card
NFC Wild-Card
AFC Wild-Card
AFC Wild-Card

Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 10-11
NFC Divisional
AFC Divisional

Sunday, Jan. 18
NFC Championship
AFC Championship

Sunday, Feb. 1
Raymond James Stadium - Tampa, Florida
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2008 LIVE PRIMETIME GAME SCHEDULE

› THURSDAY NOV 6
BRONCOS vs BROWNS

› THURSDAY NOV 13
JETS vs PATRIOTS

› THURSDAY NOV 20
BENGALS vs STEELERS

› THANKSGIVING NOV 27
CARDINALS vs EAGLES

› THURSDAY DEC 4
RAIDERS vs CHARGERS

› THURSDAY DEC 11
SAINTS vs BEARS

› THURSDAY DEC 18
COLTS vs JAGUARS

› SATURDAY DEC 20
RAVENS vs COWBOYS

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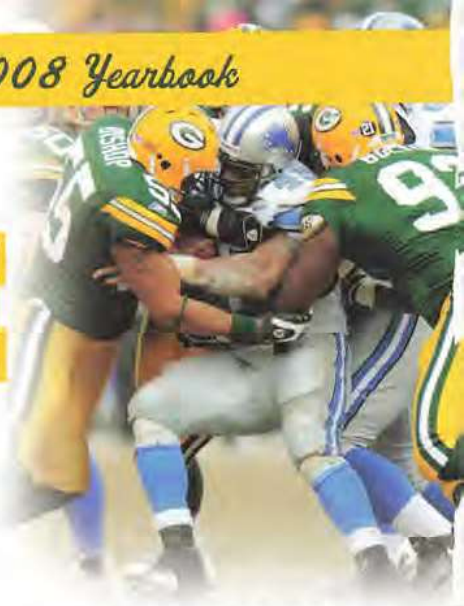

NFC NORTH OUTLOOK

Life will never be quite the same in the NFC North now that Brett Favre has gone.

Favre was the division's dominant player for 16 years and led the Green Bay Packers to seven division titles in that time, including the Packers' surprising 13-3 season last year that didn't end until the NFC Championship Game.

So you'll have to forgive the Chicago Bears, Minnesota Vikings and Detroit Lions if they're more than happy to see the future Pro Football Hall of Famer leave the game this past offseason.

Favre's departure throws the division into a wide-open race, because no one knows what kind of play to expect from his successor, Aaron Rodgers, who despite never starting an NFL game could end up being the division's best quarterback.

Nevertheless, the team that's built up the most this offseason and might be ready to unseat the Packers for the division title is the Minnesota Vikings. The Vikings finished 8-8 last season and made the boldest personnel move in the division by trading for defensive end Jared Allen, whose 15.5 sacks for Kansas City last season led the NFL.

The Vikings had the NFL's top rushing defense last year in large part because of their unmatched tandem of defensive tackles, Kevin Williams and Pat Williams. Adding one of the league's best pass rushers to their front four should upgrade a pass defense that ranked last in the NFL in yards allowed and perhaps give the Vikings one of the better defenses in the NFL.

Minnesota also has the 2007 draft's phenom, halfback Adrian Peterson, and if he stays healthy he gives the Vikings an elite runner to build their offense around. The one question, and it's a big one, is whether quarterback Tarvaris Jackson is ready to blossom into a solid NFL starting quarterback in his third season. Last year his passer rating of 70.8 points (nine touchdown passes, 12 interceptions) ranked 28th in the NFL, so much of the Vikings' hopes rest on Jackson taking a big step up in his play.

The Chicago Bears still have the core of a top-notch defense, but after going 7-9 last year they did nothing to upgrade their troublesome quarterback position. So it looks like Rex Grossman will get one more season to prove he can win, though Kyle Orton will get a shot at beating him out for the starting job. The Bears also ended up cutting former first-round pick Cedric Benson as their franchise halfback after his tumultuous offseason, but that actually could end up being addition by subtraction.

Nevertheless, linebackers Brian Urlacher and Lance Briggs will have to revive a formerly dominant defense that slipped to 28th in yards allowed and 16th in points allowed last season if the Bears are to make a run at the division leaders.

Detroit scratched out a 7-9 record in Rod Marinelli's second season as coach, and there is some talent on the roster after picking near the top of the draft for so long. The Lions have a potential playmaker at receiver if last year's first-round pick, Calvin Johnson, lives up to the talent that made him the fourth overall pick in the '07 draft.

But the Lions also have issues at quarterback, where 12-year veteran Jon Kitna put up mediocre numbers last year (80.9 passer rating, 18 touchdowns and 20 interceptions) and at age 34 is at a point where he's unlikely to improve unless the players around him play appreciably better.

The Packers return to defend their division title without Favre but with almost the entire rest of the roster back for what was the youngest team in the NFL last season. Halfback Ryan Grant's stunning emergence the second half of last season should give Rodgers a respectable run game behind what should be an ascending offensive line. The Packers also added a receiver with their first draft pick, early second-rounder Jordy Nelson, to give Rodgers another weapon to go with an already sound receiving corps of the emerging Greg Jennings, veteran Donald Driver and second-year pro James Jones.

The biggest question is how Rodgers will perform week in and week out at the game's most important position. There's bound to be mistakes of inexperience, but with an improved roster around him, if he can manage games well the Packers should have as good a chance as anyone.

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